



COUNTY BOROUGH OF OLDHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH



1938



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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Oldham.

August, 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my third Annual Report on the health of Oldham and the work done by the Public Health Department for the year 1938. The contents have been compiled in compliance with Circular 1728 of the Ministry of Health, and the Report is an Ordinary and not a Survey one.

The vital statistics will be found in the body of the Report, and I would commend the various tables to your careful study. The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the Borough at the middle of 1938 was 126,100; this is 1,700 less than for 1937 and is the lowest decrease since that of the year 1934. At the 1931 census the population was 140,314. The next census should take place in 1941 and we await with considerable interest the census figure for that year. The Death Rate, 14.4 per 1,000 of the population, shows a decrease compared with 15.8 for last year which was undoubtedly associated with the Influenza epidemic. The Birth Rate of 13.3 per 1,000 of the population shows an increase of 0.1, but the Infantile Mortality Rate (the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered births) fell from 69 to 61, the lowest figure ever recorded. It is gratifying to report that during the year only four true Maternal Deaths occurred compared with six in 1937. The Maternal Mortality Rate of 2.28 is the lowest ever recorded and compares with 2.97 for England and Wales. While we cannot anticipate that such a low record will be maintained, the improvements in our service and the enlightened public opinion are bound to react in our favour.

In May, 1938, intimation was received from the Out-Districts (Chadderton, Crompton, Royton, Middleton and Failsworth) that under the County Council Scheme for Infectious Diseases Hospital accommodation, these authorities had decided to erect a Hospital to serve their own area. The Health Committee gave very careful consideration to the necessity for the re-construction of West-hulme Hospital or alternatively the erection of a new Hospital to provide modern and adequate accommodation for patients and staff and instructed the Town Clerk to approach these Councils with the object of exploring the possibility of a Joint Hospital Board, consisting of representatives of each of the Councils above-mentioned to provide a new and up-to-date Infectious Diseases Hospital to serve the whole of the area of the Councils concerned. Since this date, discussions have taken place between representatives of the Health Committee and of the Out-Districts and reference has been made at these meetings to the apportioning of expenditure, charges of maintenance, representation, and also the site of the new Hospital.

One cannot contemplate with any feeling of satisfaction the erection of two small Hospitals almost adjacent to each other, and certainly if this should occur, future generations would undoubtedly condemn such action as being extravagant and wasteful. The cost of medical services, especially Hospitals, is tending to increase and

will continue to do so because of the advance of medical science and the improved conditions that are so essential for the safety and happiness of patients and staff. In a recent article "Fever Hospitals of the Future—Their Type, Function and Use," Doctor J. A. H. Brincker, Principal Medical Officer of the London County Council, stated:—

"The treatment of Fever Patients is becoming more highly specialised. Both doctors and nurses in Acute Fever Hospitals need, in addition to special training, special apparatus to assist them in their work of diagnosis and treatment, and these accessories, often complicated and expensive, require special accommodation and staff to manipulate them and keep them in order ready for all emergencies. Moreover the tendency is in the direction of reducing the number of patients who can be cared for by each doctor and nurse.

The smaller the Hospital the higher the cost per bed; if a Hospital is too small, it will not justify the expenditure necessary to equip it with many of the modern appliances."

Further, in the provision of Hospital accommodation we must look ahead and not just at the position as it is to-day. In future Hospitals will no longer serve the areas of local Government, but there will be regional grouping of Hospital services. Also the cost of Hospitals is being added to daily, more expensive equipment is required, more staff and increased payment for the staff. It is obvious, therefore, that a small Hospital will have higher overhead charges, and will be unable to provide economically expensive apparatus, *e.g.*, X-Ray Apparatus, Sun-Ray Plant, Pathological Department.

It is to be hoped that amicable arrangements will eventually be made between the Council and their neighbours in this matter, for it is in the interests of the rate-payers, not only from the point of view of the Medical Services provided, but from their already heavily burdened exchequer, that joint co-operation should be effected.

During the year the Staff was increased by two Junior Female Clerks, one for the Maternity and Child Welfare Department and one for the Public Health Department, and one temporary Junior Female Clerk was engaged in connection with Immunisation. In September, Mr. George Winterbottom, Chief Sanitary Inspector, retired and was succeeded by Mr. H. V. Cass of Bolton. Mr. Winterbottom entered the service in 1897 and during his years of service saw many changes and effected many improvements and rendered loyal and devoted service. Nurse Holmes, the Tuberculosis Health Visitor, retired after 23 years of faithful service.

I wish to tender by sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees for their continued support and encouragement. My thanks are also due to the members of the Staff, Medical, Nursing and Clerical, for their loyal co-operation and assistance during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. CHALMERS KEDDIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Health Committee:

Chairman:

Mr. Alderman Wrigley, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. Councillor Taylor.

The Mayor:

Mr. Councillor Howcroft, J.P.

Mr. Alderman Bardsley.

Mr. Alderman Crabtree.

Mr. Councillor Feber.

Mrs. Councillor G. Shannon.

Dr. Councillor Low.

Mr. Councillor Henthorn.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee:

Consists of all the Members of the Health Committee, with
the addition of—

Mrs. Bainbridge, B.A.

Mrs. Jackson, J.P.

Mrs. Firth.

Miss Rothwell.

STAFF.

The Public Health Department:

Consulting Medical Officer of Health :

J. B. Wilkinson, M.D., C.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

J. T. Chalmers Keddie, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer :

Eric Ward, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare :

Margaret J. T. Leitch, M.B., CH.B., M.M.S.A., D.C.H.

Assistant School Medical Officers :

Annie Mooney, L.S.A., D.P.H.

Walter P. Cargill, B.SC., M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

School Dental Officers :

Leonard N. Alley, L.D.S., R.C.S.(ENG.), Senior Dental Officer. (To 30/9/38).

Donald Gibson, L.D.S., Senior Dental Officer (From 8/12/39).

F. I. Wilson, L.D.S.

K. Jackson, L.D.S. (Temp.) (10/1/38 to 29/10/38).

G. C. Kent, L.D.S. (Temp. from 3/10/38).

Consultants to the Public Health Department :

H. Poston, M.B., M.CH., B.A.O., Orthopaedic Surgeon.

E. A. Gerrard, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.C.O.G., Obstetrician.

Neil MacInnes, M.A., M.B., CH.B., Ophthalmic Surgeon.

W. R. Cammock, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.(ED.), Aural Surgeon.

R. M. Maher, B.SC., M.D., B.S., M.R.C.P., Physician.

A. Graham Bryce, M.D., D.P.H., F.R.C.S., Thoracic Surgeon.

Public Vaccinators :

Dr. P. B. Murray.

Dr. A. S. McGowan.

Dr. T. D. Hunter.

Dr. G. Ferguson.

Dr. W. Graham.

Dr. C. Thompson.

Veterinary Inspector (Part Time) : Joseph Ward, M.R.C.V.S.

Public Analyst (Part Time) : S. Ernest Melling, F.I.C.

Sewage Works Manager :

J. Taylor, ASSOC.M.C.T., A.M.INST.S.P., A.M.I.S.E.

Sanitary Inspectors :

†*George Winterbottom, Chief Inspector. (To 30/9/38).

†*Harold V. Cass, Chief Inspector (From 1/10/38)

sp†*J. Brook, Deputy Chief Inspector.

*W. Clarke.

h†*J. McKenna.

*H. Waller.

*J. Winterbottom (To 12/2/38).

*J. Crosdale.

*H. Shaw.

†*J. Mann.

*V. C. Quin.

* G. H. Wilkinson. (From 3/3/38).

Health Visitors :

‡xa*Miss L. Pugh, Superintendent and Supervisor of Midwives.

||†Mrs. N. B. Gregoire.

ca†Mrs. W. Yates.

xMrs. M. Redfern.

yca†Mrs. P. Wroe. (To 21/6/38).

†Mrs. M. A. Dyson.

ca†Mrs. B. Worfolk (To 29/1/38).

ca†Mrs. E. Macrae. (To 28/2/38).

ca†Mrs. N. Hanmer.

ca†Mrs. N. Sanderson. (From 19/9/38).

(From 19/4/38).

xMrs. C. Holmes, Tuberculosis Nurse. (To 30/9/38).

a†Mrs. F. Wild, Tuberculosis Nurse. (Temp. from 30/9/38).

Municipal Midwives :

xaMiss E. M. Rennison.

xaMiss M. Dowdall.

xaMiss A. Bailey.

aMrs. A. Entwistle.

aMrs. L. D. Eccles.

xaMrs. M. E. Cunliffe.

xa†Mrs. A. Atkinson (6/7/38 to 25/9/38).

(To 30/11/38).

aMrs. E. Crompton (From 12/12/38).

xa†Mrs. N. Davies.

(From 12/12/38).

School Nurses :

x||Mrs. B. S. Bate.

xaMrs. A. G. Willmott.

xa†Mrs. C. Wild.

xa||Mrs. G. M. Huby.

x||Mrs. E. Pendlebury.

Massage Staff :

Miss A. John, C.S.M.M.G., M.E., L.E.T., N.S.R., S.R.E.

Miss H. I. Schofield, C.S.M.M.G., M.E., L.E.T.

Clerical Staff :

Herbert H. Stamp, Chief Clerk.

E. Stansfield, Vaccination Officer.

* Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Sanitary Inspector).

† Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and Foods).

s Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Smoke Inspector).

p Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Sanitary Science & Public Works).

h Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (General Hygiene).

|| Fever Trained Nurse.

x General Trained Nurse.

†† State Registered Nurse.

a Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

c Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Health Visitor).

‡ Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Maternity and Child Welfare).

y State Registered Children's Nurse.

The Municipal Hospital:

Medical Superintendent : R. M. Maher, B.Sc., M.D., B.S., M.R.C.P.

Visiting Staff :

R. A. Jackson, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Surgeon.
 W. R. Cammock, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.(ED.), Aural Surgeon.
 Neil MacInnes, M.A., M.B., CH.B., Ophthalmic Surgeon.
 H. Poston, M.B., M.CH., B.A.O., Orthopædic Surgeon.
 E. A. Gerrard, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.C.O.G., Obstetrician.
 A. H. Richardson, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.M.R., Radiologist.

Resident Surgical Officer :

A. Barber, M.A., M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.P.

Resident Medical Officers :

E. A. Marsden, M.B., CH.B. (To 23/9/38).
 A. M. Calmonson, L.R.C.P. & R.S.I., L.M. (To 1/6/38).
 M. O. Thorpe, M.D., L.C.P. & S.(ALTA). (To 28/8/38)
 M. J. Brayshay, M.B., CH.B. (From 5/7/38).
 T. A. Tierney, L.R.C.P. & R.S.I. (From 16/9/38).
 E. Circuit, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (From 26/10/38)

Matron :

¶Miss E. Lewis.

Westhulme Hospital:

Resident Medical Officer :

Margaret J. T. Leitch, M.B., CH.B., M.M.S.A., D.C.H.

Matron :

¶Miss E. M. Blenkarn

Strinesdale Sanatorium:

Matron :

¶Miss I. C. Ball.

Greenacres Maternity Home:

Matron :

¶Miss E. Fray. (To 5/3/38).
 ¶Miss J. H. Birtwell. (From 2/3/38).

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

1. General Statistics.

Area in Statute Acres (1931 census figure)	4,735 acres
Area fully developed or in course of development ...	3,660 acres
Enumerated Population (census 1931)	140,314
Registrar General's Estimate of Population, middle of 1938	126,100
Density of Population, i.e., Number of Persons per Acre (whole Borough)	27
Number of Houses in Borough, December, 1938 ...	40,588
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938)	—
Number of New Houses erected in 1938... ..	226
Rateable Value (April, 1938)	£697,895
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1938) ...	£2,553
Amount of Poor Law (Outdoor) Relief paid in 1938...	£63,610

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births: Legitimate	840	758	1,598
Illegitimate	39	44	83
	<hr/> 879	<hr/> 802	<hr/> 1,681
Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ...			13.33
Still Births: Legitimate	40	29	69
Illegitimate	5	2	7
	<hr/> 45	<hr/> 31	<hr/> 76
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			43.25
Deaths (Males 937, Females 879)			1,816
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			14.40
Death Rate (adjusted by R.G.'s A.C.F. figure, 1.12) ...			16.13

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (R.G.'s Short List)—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births
Puerperal Sepsis	4	2.28
Other Puerperal Causes	0	—
Total	4	2.28

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age... .. 103

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	61.27
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	60.08
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	84.33

Death Rates per 1,000 population from—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.63
All Forms of Tuberculosis	0.75
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	1.25
Cancer	1.93
Principal Zymotic Diseases: Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, and Membranous Croup	0.18

Death Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis of Children under 2 years of age, per 1,000 births	3.57
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	8
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (children under 2 years of age)	6

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Oldham is situated in the County of Lancashire, on the south-western slopes of the Pennines. Its highest point is 1,225 feet and its lowest 350 feet above sea-level.

The population is largely industrial, and the chief industries are cotton spinning and the manufacture of cotton machinery. During the last few years a few new industries have come into the town, the chief of which are hand-bag manufacturing, bedding, clothing and underclothing manufacturing. There is a large electrical engineering works, which employs a number of Oldham residents, situated just outside the boundary.

Area and Population.

The area of the Borough is 4,735 acres.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the Borough at the middle of 1938 is 126,100. This is 1,700 less than that for 1937, and shows that the population continues to diminish. At the 1931 census the population was 140,314.

Rateable Value.

The rateable value on the 1st April, 1938, was £697,895, and the sum represented by a 1d. rate £2,553.

Unemployment.

The following figures have been supplied by the Manager of the Employment Exchange and the Juvenile Employment Officer, and show the number of persons unemployed and registered at the Oldham Exchange and Oldham Juvenile Employment Bureau during each month of the year 1938.

Month	Men	Boys	Women	Girls	Total
January ...	5,107	121	1,868	114	7,210
February ...	5,451	101	2,681	114	8,347
March ...	5,667	122	2,881	136	8,806
April ...	6,222	181	2,935	181	9,519
May ...	6,388	118	3,671	115	10,292
June ...	8,884	126	5,860	135	15,005
July ...	6,488	237	3,048	164	9,937
August ...	6,737	380	3,264	191	10,572
September ...	6,873	264	2,980	135	10,252
October ...	6,261	232	2,958	85	9,536
November ...	6,638	147	2,803	72	9,660
December ...	6,505	181	2,479	117	9,282
Monthly Average, 1938	6,435	184	3,119	130	9,868
Monthly Average, 1937	4,758	61	1,128	36	5,983

Poor Law Relief.

The total amount of outdoor relief expended in Oldham during the year was £63,611, as compared with £59,367 in 1937. The weekly average number of persons in receipt of out-relief was 3,023, comprising 2,032 cases. There were 503 admissions of Oldham persons to the Westwood Park Institution.

Health Insurance.

The total number of insured persons in Oldham on the 31st December, 1938, was approximately 71,656, or 57 per cent. of the total population. The number of insured persons is 2,582 more than at the corresponding period of the previous year. This increase is almost entirely due to the number of juveniles who became entitled to Medical Benefit on the 4th April.

Meteorology.

The system of daily observation at Alexandra Park and Strinesdale Sanatorium continued as usual during 1938. A summary of the findings is given in the following table.

Weekly Means of Meteorological Observations for the Year 1938.

Date	Barometer reduced to Sea Level at 32°	Thermometer	HYGROMETER		% of Saturation	TEMPERATURES							Rainfall 12 in. above ground	Number of Days on which rain fell	Clouds Covered—10	Sunshine recorded at Strinesdale
			Dry	Wet		Maximum in Shade.	Minimum in Shade	Maximum in Sun	Maximum in Sun Black Bulb	Minimum on Grass	Temperature 12 in. below surface	Temperature 4 ft. below surface				
1938																
Jan. 8	29.99	40	40	39	92	41	37	43	46	35	38	41	6	9	4	20
15	29.15	40	40	39	92	45	35	46	49	31	38	41	7	8	1	30
22	29.78	44	44	43	92	47	38	48	51	36	40	41	4	3	1	40
29	29.77	44	44	43	92	48	39	50	53	37	40	41	5	8	0	50
5 Feb.	29.73	44	44	43	92	48	39	50	54	36	40	41	5	9	3	20
12	30.13	41	41	39	85	45	37	47	52	33	40	42	5	8	13	15
19	30.32	39	39	37	84	41	33	45	57	31	37	41	2	6	28	80
26	30.22	41	41	39	85	43	35	49	56	31	37	40	2	8	9	55
March 5	30.30	45	45	43	85	50	39	52	62	35	41	41	3	6	22	55
12	30.28	48	48	47	93	52	41	55	64	39	42	41	1	9	7	00
19	30.08	51	51	48	80	55	43	61	74	38	44	43	1	6	24	60
26	29.84	47	47	44	79	53	39	57	71	35	43	44	4	7	21	90
April 2	30.07	51	51	49	86	53	45	58	70	44	45	44	5	8	5	10
9	30.22	46	46	43	79	50	37	55	73	35	44	44	2	8	30	60
16	30.40	46	46	43	79	52	35	62	75	30	43	45	0	3	51	25
23	30.24	45	45	42	78	52	37	61	75	32	44	44	1	8	16	50
30	30.12	48	48	44	73	53	39	61	80	36	46	44	0	6	26	40
May 7	30.07	49	49	44	67	56	39	64	90	36	47	46	2	3	70	20
14	29.99	53	53	48	69	56	44	63	85	39	49	46	3	7	34	65
21	29.87	52	52	49	80	57	45	65	84	43	50	47	5	7	23	10
28	29.81	52	52	50	86	59	46	66	87	44	51	49	5	9	19	75
June 4	29.66	50	50	47	80	55	43	63	85	42	50	49	7	9	19	80

11	29.51	55	55	52	81	62	48	73	95	45	53	51	1.01	5	7	30.80
18	30.22	58	58	55	81	62	50	75	94	47	55	51	.06	1	8	41.50
25	30.00	57	57	55	87	63	52	68	83	49	56	53	1.02	5	9	15.30
July 2	29.66	55	55	53	87	60	49	68	90	48	55	53	1.35	6	9	20.20
9	29.69	55	55	52	81	60	48	68	88	45	54	53	2.10	7	8	12.90
16	29.89	56	56	54	86	59	51	63	74	50	54	53	1.84	7	9	2.60
23	30.08	59	59	57	88	64	52	71	88	49	56	53	.15	3	7	31.70
30	29.86	61	61	58	82	66	53	73	93	50	57	54	.76	6	9	29.30
Aug. 6	30.17	64	64	59	72	70	57	79	103	53	59	55	.42	3	4	42.50
13	29.95	63	63	62	94	70	58	79	97	57	61	56	.28	5	9	10.05
20	29.71	59	59	56	82	64	52	71	93	50	58	56	1.08	5	6	30.25
27	30.07	58	58	56	87	63	51	72	92	49	56	55	.68	4	7	33.50
Sept. 3	29.95	53	53	51	86	59	44	68	89	42	57	55	.62	3	7	30.50
10	30.11	55	55	53	87	59	48	67	84	48	55	54	.66	4	6	20.35
17	30.07	55	55	54	93	60	49	66	80	47	55	54	.18	6	9	9.20
24	29.73	58	58	56	87	62	52	66	74	48	54	54	.26	5	9	5.25
Oct. 1	29.86	56	56	54	87	62	52	70	81	47	55	54	.41	5	7	15.15
8	29.43	51	51	48	80	54	45	58	73	42	51	53	3.22	7	9	12.15
15	29.77	54	54	52	86	58	47	60	74	45	51	52	3.07	7	8	15.80
22	29.86	52	52	50	86	56	45	62	72	42	50	52	.85	4	7	15.55
29	29.87	47	47	46	93	52	40	56	64	34	47	51	.79	4	7	13.10
Nov. 5	29.73	49	49	48	93	52	47	*	63	42	46	50	1.45	5	8	11.45
12	29.85	54	54	52	86	58	48	59	69	43	49	50	.16	1	6	8.50
19	30.00	51	51	49	80	56	46	57	62	42	49	50	.73	6	4	12.00
26	29.20	43	43	41	85	47	37	47	50	33	43	49	2.12	7	7	5.85
Dec. 3	29.46	41	41	40	92	47	35	46	50	32	41	46	1.35	7	8	6.35
10	29.52	43	43	42	92	47	37	47	50	33	42	45	1.28	7	7	6.20
17	29.71	46	46	45	93	50	42	52	54	37	43	45	.78	7	8	1.90
24	29.96	31	31	31	100	32	27	34	37	25	37	44	.10	2	7	4.95
31	29.88	38	38	37	91	42	33	43	45	30	37	44	.76	4	8	6.75
Means	29.90	50	50	48	86	54	43	60	72	40	48	48	42.50 Totals	223 Totals	7	951.10 Totals

* Instrument out of Order.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

There were 2,088 live births (1,081 males and 1,007 females) registered in the Borough during the year. After correction for inward (48) and outward (455) transferable births, the net total of births is 1,681 (879 males and 802 females).

The BIRTH RATE is 13.3 per thousand of the population, as compared with 13.1 for the previous year and 15.1 for England and Wales.

The illegitimate live births numbered 83, or 4.93 per cent. of the total live births, a decrease of 4 on the previous year.

Stillbirths.

During the year 105 stillbirths were registered. After being adjusted by inward and outward transfers, the number is 76, giving a rate of 43.25 per thousand total live and stillbirths and .60 per thousand of the population, as compared with 54.43 and .76 respectively in 1937.

Marriages.

There were 1,071 marriages during the year, the rate per thousand of the population being 8.49. In 1937 the number was 1,155, the rate being 9.03.

Deaths.

During the year 2,157 deaths (1,151 male, 1,006 female) were registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (69) and outward (410) transferable deaths, the net total deaths is 1,816 (972 males and 844 females), a decrease of 212 on the total for 1937.

The DEATH RATE is 14.40 per thousand of the population, as compared with 15.8 for the previous year and 11.6 for England and Wales.

Of the 1,816 deaths registered, 723 or 39.81 per cent. occurred in one or other of the following institutions:—

The Municipal Hospital	...	...	...	432
The Westwood Park Institution	...	...	...	129
The Oldham Royal Infirmary	...	...	...	101
Westhulme Hospital	...	...	...	45
Strinesdale Sanatorium	...	...	...	16

The table on page 22 shews the age and sex distribution and cause of deaths in 1938. Of the total deaths, 836 or 46.03 per cent. occurred in persons aged 65 years or over.

The following are the chief causes of death in order of frequency:—

Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	495
Cancer	...	...	...	...	243
Arterial Disease	...	...	...	...	172
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	94
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	92
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	82
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	82
Suicide and other violence	...	...	...	...	61
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	57

These groups of diseases represent 1,378 deaths occurring during the year, or 75.9 per cent. of the total deaths registered.

Maternal Deaths.

There were 4 deaths directly due to pregnancy or child-bearing, compared with 6 for the previous year. The maternal mortality rate is 2.28 per thousand live and stillbirths, as compared with 3.36 for the previous year and 2.97 for England and Wales.

Infantile Mortality.

There were 128 deaths (69 males and 59 females) of infants under one year of age registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (6) and outward (31) transferable deaths, the net total of infant deaths is 103 (54 males and 49 females), a decrease of 12 on the total for 1937.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE is 61 per thousand births as compared with 69 for the previous year and 53 for England and Wales.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per thousand legitimate live births is 60.08, as compared with 66.95 in 1937.

Of the 103 infant deaths, 7 were those of illegitimate children. The death rate of illegitimate infants per thousand illegitimate births is 84.3, as against 91.9 for the previous year.

The table on page 24 gives the causes of death of children at various ages under one year. Of the 103 deaths, 66 occurred in infants under four weeks old, equivalent to a neo-natal mortality of 39.26 per thousand births.

The following table shows the neo-natal mortality, compared with the infantile mortality, during the last eight years :—

Year	Infant Deaths under one month	Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	Total Infant Deaths under one year	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births
1931	109	56·53	203	105·29
1932	69	38·52	149	83·19
1933	65	38·32	120	70·75
1934	66	38·59	121	70·76
1935	58	34·05	106	62·24
1936	67	39·76	118	70·03
1937	60	35·61	115	69·00
1938	66	39·26	103	61·27

In common with the whole country, two problems still continue to exercise the minds of public health officers—the neo-natal mortality and the decline in breast feeding.

Although every year we have reason to congratulate ourselves on the steady decline in the infant mortality rate, which, this year, is the lowest on record, and compares very favourably with that of other industrial towns, the neo-natal mortality rate still remains unchanged, in spite of all the facilities offered by the public health services. This problem must receive the united and unremitting attention of all concerned in the care of the expectant mother.

The decline of breast feeding is a very real problem, which shows no sign of righting itself. Some authorities would view this disaster as seriously as they do the falling birth rate, and would regard it as a concomitant of limitation of families and a direct result of higher civilisation. We ourselves do not regard it as a decline or failure of the maternal instinct, but rather as a result of the success of artificial infant feeding—which in recent times has been raised to a science. We would ask, earnestly, all connected with the mother and new born infant, doctors, midwives and nurses alike, not lightly to discard this fundamental function which has such an important bearing on the psychology of the mother and on the health of the child.

Vital Statistics of the Borough for the Year, and previous Years.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE BOROUGH		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE BOROUGH			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the Borough	of residents not registered in the Borough	Under 3 Year of Age.		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1,000 nett Births	Number	Rate
1919	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1920	...	2294	2246	15.7	2390	17.2	225	56	213	95	2221	16.0
1921	143,154	3336	3312	23.6	2285	16.0	205	60	355	105	2140	15.0
1922	148,300	3149	3136	21.3	2333	15.9	207	52	341	109	2178	14.8
1923	148,300	2828	2835	19.3	2531	17.2	256	57	301	106	2332	15.8
1924	147,500	2633	2617	17.8	2560	17.4	264	56	289	110	2352	16.0
1925	147,300	2397	2433	16.3	2226	14.9	237	56	260	107	2045	13.7
1926	146,200	2279	2279	15.5	2376	16.1	255	65	236	103	2186	14.8
1927	143,000	2316	2338	16.1	2565	17.7	805	68	241	103	2328	16.0
1928	141,400	2104	2095	14.6	2249	15.7	281	86	181	86	2054	14.4
1928	143,200	2059	2044	14.1	2289	15.9	300	88	181	88	2064	14.4
Averages for years 1919-1928	.....	2539	2539	17.4	2380	16.4	303	64	259	101	2190	15.0
1929	142,500	1946	1887	13.2	2913	20.3	330	73	221	117	2646	18.5
1930	142,500	1956	1902	13.3	2277	15.9	309	88	134	70	1950	13.7
1931	141,900	2035	1928	13.5	2370	16.7	333	70	204	105	2035	14.3
1932	138,900	1992	1791	12.8	2305	16.5	347	60	149	83	1942	13.9
1933	136,700	1912	1696	12.4	2387	17.4	390	65	120	70	2049	14.9
1934	135,200	2007	1710	12.6	2317	17.1	331	64	121	70	1962	14.5
1935	133,300	1975	1703	12.7	2334	17.5	379	72	106	62	1947	14.6
1936	131,000	1991	1685	12.8	2295	17.5	419	78	118	70	1954	14.9
1937	127,800	2084	1685	13.1	2397	18.7	442	73	115	69	2028	15.8
1938	126,100	2078	1681	13.3	2157	17.1	410	69	103	61	1816	14.4

Area of the Borough in Acres, 4,735.

AT CENSUS OF 1931.—Total population at all ages, 140,314. Number of inhabited houses, 36,071.
Average number of persons per house, 3.8.

Comparative Statistics of the Wards.

The table below sets out the principal vital statistics for the year in respect of the twelve wards in the Borough.

WARD	Census Population 1931	Area in Acres.	Density (Persons to an Acre).	No. of Nett Births Register'd	BirthRate 1938 per 1,000 Populat'n	No. of Deaths under 1 yr. of age	Infantile Death Rate	No. of Nett Deaths Register'd	Death Rate per 1,000 Populat'n
St. Mary's.....	9,870	124	79·6	130	13·2	8	·8	147	14·9
St. Peter's	9,934	284	31·4	93	9·4	7	·7	138	13·9
Werneth	10,922	264	41·4	103	9·4	8	·7	132	12·1
Westwood.....	13,672	281	48·6	141	10·3	6	·4	149	10·9
St. Paul's	16,279	485	33·5	223	13·7	10	·6	223	13·7
Coldhurst	7,592	143	53·1	78	10·3	7	·9	96	12·6
Hartford	11,662	202	57·7	134	11·5	5	·4	154	13·2
Hollinwood	12,126	417	29·0	130	10·7	6	·5	144	11·9
Clarksfield	16,015	652	24·5	225	14·0	21	1·3	227	14·2
Mumps	7,810	135	57·8	104	13·2	4	·5	93	11·9
St. James'	10,218	967	10·5	131	12·8	5	·5	145	14·2
Waterhead	14,214	781	18·1	189	13·3	16	1·1	168	11·8

Comparative Statement of Vital Statistics for the Year 1938.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Local Adjusted Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate		Death Rate from Phthisis	Death Rate from other Tubercular Diseases	Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Total Births)		
				Year 1938	Average, Five Years 1933—1937			Puerperal Sepsis	Other Causes	Total
England & Wales ...	15.1	11.6	...	53	59	0.53	0.10	0.89	2.19	2.97
126 Great Towns ...	15	11.7	...	57	63	...	...	...	...	...
Birkenhead ...	17.0	12.1	13.1	75	68	0.67	0.11	0.78	1.16	1.94
Blackburn ...	12.2	14.6	15.0	67	65	0.68	0.15	0.68	3.41	4.09
Bolton ...	13.5	13.1	14.2	44	62.8	0.44	0.10	1.65	4.55	6.20
Burnley ...	11.76	14.05	15.17	72.87	70.04	0.69	0.12	0.92	2.75	3.67
Bury ...	12.82	13.67	13.80	67	63	0.39	0.12	...	2.48	2.48
Halifax ...	13.21	14.1	13.8	57	74	0.45	0.11	1.46	1.46	2.92
Huddersfield ...	14.13	13.12	13.51	66	55	0.42	0.10	2.70	1.62	4.32
Manchester ...	14.75	12.35	14.08	68.84	73.74	0.83	0.14	1.39	2.86	4.25
Oldham ...	13.3	14.4	16.13	61.27	68.56	0.63	0.12	2.28	...	2.28
Preston ...	15.60	13.01	14.44	71	79	0.61	0.17	1.62	...	1.62
Rochdale ...	12.01	13.93	14.63	62.96	74.80	0.48	0.05	0.87	2.60	3.47
Salford ...	15.8	13.1	15.5	74	85	0.9	0.14	1.2	3.0	4.2
St. Helens ...	18.2	11.4	14.0	69.7	83.8	0.53	0.12	0.97	4.86	5.83
Stockport ...	14.35	13.03	13.68	56.36	65.45	0.53	0.15	...	2.94	2.94
Wallasey ...	13.7	12.9	12.63	60.3	...	0.61	0.09	0.77	2.32	3.09
Warrington ...	16.4	11.1	13.3	72	71	0.67	0.05	2.2	0.73	3.93
Wigan ...	16.51	13.38	16.05	100	87	0.58	0.16	1.40	0.70	2.10

Table of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during the Year 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All												
		Ages	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	
ALL CAUSES...	M	937	54	7	12	17	24	42	63	109	218	244	147	
	F	879	49	5	10	22	18	36	60	75	159	228	217	
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Measles	M	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	6	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Scarlet Fever	M	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Whooping Cough	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Diphtheria	M	5	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	7	...	...	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Influenza	M	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	2	1	...
	F	9	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	2	2
7 Encephalitis lethargica	M	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
8 Cerebro-spinal fever	M	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M	60	...	...	...	2	8	14	10	8	16	1	1
	F	19	...	...	...	...	5	7	2	3	1	...	1
10 Other tuberculous diseases	M	9	1	1	1	1	3	1	...	1	...	...	...
	F	6	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
11 Syphilis	M	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
13 Cancer, malignant disease	M	131	...	...	...	...	3	1	8	18	33	46	22
	F	112	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	12	30	31	25
14 Diabetes	M	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	1
	F	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4	5	...
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	M	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	12	11	9
	F	46	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	22	14
16 Heart disease	M	232	...	...	...	2	2	4	9	27	60	76	52
	F	263	...	...	...	5	2	7	14	21	51	84	79
17 Aneurysm	M	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18 Other circulatory diseases	M	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	17	42	20
	F	82	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	15	30	33
19 Bronchitis	M	37	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	4	9	13	7
	F	20	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	3	10
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	M	55	8	2	...	...	2	3	6	13	11	9	1
	F	37	4	1	1	...	2	3	6	4	8	3	5	
21 Other respiratory diseases	M	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...
	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1
22 Peptic ulcer	M	14	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	4	2	3	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
23 Diarrhoea, etc.	M	8	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
	F	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	...
24 Appendicitis	M	6	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	2	1
	F	10	...	1	...	4	...	...	2	1	1	1	...
25 Cirrhosis of liver	M	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	M	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1
	F	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	5	1
27 Other digestive diseases	M	14	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	4	3
	F	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	2	1
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	M	39	...	...	...	...	...	5	6	7	13	7	1
	F	43	...	...	...	2	1	3	5	8	10	7	7
29 Puerperal sepsis	M	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 Other puerperal causes	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformation, etc.	M	34	33	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	34	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32 Senility	M	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
	F	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	26
33 Suicide	M	17	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	5	4	2
	F	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	3	...	...
34 Other violence	M	23	...	1	1	6	3	2	...	2	4	1	3	
	F	14	...	...	...	2	1	2	1	3	1	2	2
35 Other defined diseases	M	61	4	1	2	1	1	4	7	8	11	12	10	
	F	67	4	2	...	2	4	7	9	4	14	16	5	
36 Causes ill-defined, or unknown	M	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	5	4
	F	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	...

Table showing the Birth-rates, also Rates of Mortality from all causes, from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, and from Phthisis, Bronchitis, and Pneumonia, during the years 1903-1938.

Year	Population	RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM						Deaths under 1 year to 100 births
		Births	Deaths all causes	7 princip ^l Zymotic Diseases	Phthisis	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	
1903	138,786	25.6	18.6	2.4	1.6	2.4	1.6	160
1904	139,497	24.9	18.3	2.3	1.4	2.2	1.5	155
1905	140,225	24.3	18.1	2.1	1.5	1.9	1.6	150
1906	140,969	26.9	18.8	2.8	1.3	1.7	1.6	146
Average 5 years		25.5	18.6	2.3	1.4	2.0	1.6	152
1907	141,730	26.5	19.3	1.5	1.6	2.5	1.9	144
1908	142,507	28.4	20.1	2.6	1.5	2.2	1.5	159
1909	143,301	27.4	19.0	1.1	1.4	2.2	1.8	119
1910	146,700	25.2	16.7	1.8	1.1	1.7	1.5	127
1911	147,751	24.4	18.2	2.5	1.2	1.7	1.5	159
Average 5 years		26.4	18.6	1.9	1.3	2.0	1.6	141
1912	148,840	22.9	16.3	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.3	117
1913	149,936	23.2	17.1	1.4	1.2	2.0	1.3	139
1914	151,044	23.0	17.8	2.5	1.2	1.9	1.4	136
1915	141,781	20.8	18.0	1.0	1.4	2.3	1.6	126
1916	*136,126	17.8	16.7	0.9	1.3	1.8	0.9	122
Average 5 years		21.5	17.2	1.4	1.3	1.9	1.3	128
1917	*133,721	14.4	16.0	0.8	1.3	2.1	1.3	110
1918	149,285	13.8	21.1	1.0	1.2	2.7	2.3	118
1919	—	15.7	16.0	0.6	0.9	2.2	1.1	95
1920	143,154	23.6	15.0	0.4	1.1	1.6	1.2	105
1921	148,300	21.3	14.8	0.5	0.8	1.7	1.2	109
Average 5 years		17.7	16.6	0.6	1.1	2.1	1.4	107
1922	148,300	19.3	15.8	0.7	0.9	2.0	1.2	106
1923	148,300	17.8	16.0	0.5	0.8	2.2	1.5	110
1924	147,300	16.3	13.7	0.3	0.8	1.7	1.2	111
1925	146,200	15.5	14.8	0.5	0.8	1.7	1.1	103
1926	143,000	16.1	16.0	0.7	0.8	1.9	1.4	106
Average 5 years		17.0	15.2	0.5	0.8	1.9	1.3	107
1927	141,400	14.6	14.4	0.2	0.7	1.7	1.2	86
1928	143,200	14.1	14.4	0.4	0.8	1.6	0.9	88
1929	142,500	13.2	18.5	0.86	1.0	2.5	1.7	117
1930	142,500	13.3	13.7	0.3	0.7	1.6	1.0	70
1931	141,900	13.5	14.3	0.2	0.7	1.8	1.4	105
Average 5 years		13.7	15.0	0.3	0.7	1.8	1.2	93
1932	138,900	12.8	13.9	0.2	0.7	1.3	1.1	83
1933	136,700	12.4	14.9	0.14	0.6	1.6	1.5	70
1934	135,200	12.6	14.5	0.48	0.7	1.3	1.1	70
1935	133,300	12.7	14.6	0.24	0.6	1.7	1.0	62
1936	131,000	12.8	14.9	0.41	0.4	0.8	0.8	70
Average 5 years		12.6	14.5	0.28	0.6	1.3	1.1	71
1937	127,800	13.1	15.8	0.17	0.6	0.9	0.9	69
1938	126,100	13.3	14.4	0.18	0.6	0.5	0.7	61

*Estimated for Deaths.

Infant Mortality during 1938.

Deaths from stated causes and various ages under one year.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 day	1-2 days	2-3 days	3-4 days	4-5 days	5-6 days	6-7 days	Total under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
ALL CAUSES { Certified Uncertified	20 ...	12 ...	7 ...	4 ...	1 ...	3 ...	2 ...	49 ...	9 ...	8 ...	... ...	66 ...	12 ...	11 ...	7 ...	7 ...	103 ...
Measles ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Whooping Cough ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
T.B. of Nervous System ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
T.B. of Intestines and Peritoneum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other T.B. Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Convulsions ... ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	3
Bronchitis ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	4
Pneumonia ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	1	4	2	10
Broncho-Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	5
Inflammation of Stomach ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hernia—Intestinal Obstruction ...	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	5	3	...	...	8	3	1	...	...	12
Congenital Malformations ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Sclerema ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Icterus ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth 	15	6	5	1	...	...	1	28	2	3	...	33	...	...	...	...	33
Diseases of Umbilicus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis 	2	1	...	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	...	6	1	...	...	...	7
Suffocation in Bed and not stated ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Heart Disease ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	4	1	1	...	...	6
Injury at Birth 	1	2	...	2	...	1	...	6	...	2	...	8	...	...	...	...	8
Other Causes ... ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	2	...	4	...	1	1	...	6
Totals 	20	12	7	4	1	3	2	49	9	8	...	66	12	11	7	7	103

Section II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Staff.

Full particulars of the staff of the various departments are given at the beginning of the report.

Laboratory Facilities.

There has been no alteration in the arrangements for this work, which is undertaken at the Oldham Royal Infirmary and at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

Details of the examinations made during the year are given below :—

	Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.		Oldham Royal Infirmary.	
	Number examined	Number positive	Number examined	Number positive
Swabs (for Diphtheria)	323	93	4681	350
Virulence Tests (for Diphtheria)	67	55	—	—
Widal Tests	—	—	2	—
Fæces and Urine ...	7	—	9	2
Cerebro Spinal Fluid ...	—	—	1	—
Other Examinations ...	10	—	11	3

Ambulance Facilities.

Two motor ambulances are kept at Westhulme Hospital and are used for the removal of cases of infectious disease and tuberculosis.

One ambulance is maintained by the Public Assistance Committee and is used for the removal of patients to Westwood Park Institution and for the transfer of patients to and from the Institution to The Municipal Hospital.

The Police Department possess six ambulances, and provide a very efficient service for the Borough and the adjacent areas of Chadderton, Royton, Springhead, Shaw, Lees and Failsworth.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

General. A voluntary body, the Oldham and District Nursing Association whose home is situated in Union Street West, undertakes the professional nursing of cases of general sickness in the home. The staff consists of 14 nurses.

Infectious Diseases. No provision is made for the nursing of cases of infectious disease in the home.

Midwives. In addition to the Midwives employed at The Municipal Hospital and the Maternity Home, at the end of the year there were seven Midwives employed by the Council.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The local authority provide the following clinics at the places and times stated:—

Infant Welfare Centres.

Central, Town Hall	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	2-0 p.m.
Infant Clinic, Central, Town Hall	Tuesday & Thursday	10-0 a.m.
Hollinwood Church Institute, Incline Road	Thursday	2-0 p.m.
St. Barnabas School, Balfour Street	Wednesday	2-0 p.m.
Copster School, Copsterhill Rd.	Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
Mission Hall, York Street ...	Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
Methodist School Watershed- dings	Thursday	2-0 p.m.
Hope Chapel, Abbey Hills ...	Wednesday	2-0 p.m.
(At the Branch Centres the Infant Consultations and Schools for Mothers are on alternate weeks).		

Ante-Natal Clinic.

Central, Town Hall	Monday	2-0 p.m.
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School Clinics.

Scottfield	Daily	1-30 p.m.
Gower Street	Saturday	9-30 a.m.

Dental Clinics (by appointment).

Scottfield	Daily	1-30 p.m.
Gower Street		
Cannon Street		
	Saturday	9-30 a.m.

Orthopædic Clinic (by appointment).

Isabella Greenhalgh Institute, Gainsborough Avenue ...	Surgeon attends alternate Wednesdays at 10-0 a.m. Rem- edial exercises and U.V.R. treatment daily by appoint- ment.	
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Tuberculosis Dispensary.

25, Barker Street	Tuesday	9-30 a.m.
	Thursday	9-30 a.m.
	Second Tuesday in each month at 5-45 p.m. for patients who are working.	

Venereal Diseases Clinic.

Oldham Royal Infirmary ...	(Women and Children)	
	Monday, 7-30 p.m.	
	(Men)	Tuesday, 7-30 p.m.
	(Men)	Wednesday, 7-30 p.m.

I.—Table showing the Classification of the Accommodation for Sick, Maternity and Mental Cases, and the Number of Beds occupied on the 31st December, 1938.

Classification of Wards (1)	Number of Wards (2)	BEDS							
		MEN		WOMEN		CHILDREN (under 16 years of age)		TOTAL	
		Provided (3)	Occupied (4)	Provided (5)	Occupied (6)	Provided (7)	Occupied (8)	Provided (9)	Occupied (10)
1. Medical	14	90	61	84	73	8	—	182	134
2. Surgical	5	30	31	29	33	—	—	59	64
3. Children	3	—	—	—	—	53	35	53	35
4. Maternity	4	—	—	44	29	—	—	44	29
5. Other	2	2	—	10	—	—	—	12	—
TOTALS	28	122	92	167	135	61	35	350	262

II.—Statistics relating to the Year ended 31st December, 1938.

(a) In-Patients.

1.	Total Number of Admissions (including infants born in hospital)	5,331
2.	Number of Women confined in hospital... ..	978
3.	Number of Live Births	927
4.	Number of Still Births	64
5.	Number of Deaths among the Newly-born (i.e., under four weeks of age)*	44
6.	Total Number of Deaths among Children under one year (including those given under 5)	70
7.	Number of Maternal Deaths among Women admitted to hospital for confinement	2
8.	Total Number of Deaths	664
9.	Total Number of Discharges (including infants born in hospital)	4,674
10.	Duration of stay of Patients included in 8 and 9 above. Number of cases whose total stay was for the following periods:—	
	(a) under four weeks	4,482
	(b) four weeks and under thirteen weeks	721
	(c) thirteen weeks or more	135
11.	Number of Beds occupied (excluding cots in maternity wards); (a) average during the year	308
	(b) highest, 333 on 18/3/38; (c) lowest, 240 on 7/10/38.	
12.	Number of Surgical Operations under general anæsthetic (excluding dental operations)	763
13.	Number of abdominal sections	418

*This figure relates only to children born in hospital.

(b) Out-Patients.

There is no Out-Patient Department except for the Ante-Natal Clinic, where 854 mothers made 5,866 attendances.

(c) Classification of In-Patients who were discharged from or who died in the Institution during the year ended 31st December, 1938.

DISEASE GROUPS					Children (under 16 years of age)		Men and Women	
					Dis- charged	Died	Dis- charged	Died
A.	Acute Infectious Disease	...	...	...	30	5	30	9
B.	Influenza	...	...	...			5	1
C.	Tuberculosis—							
	Pulmonary	...	...	...	1	2	27	12
	Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	21	7	28	4
D.	Malignant Disease	...	...	...			75	97
E.	Rheumatism—							
	(1) Acute rheumatism (rheumatic fever), together with sub-acute rheumatism and chorea				11	2	26	5
	(2) Non-articular manifestations of so-called "rheumatism" (muscular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica)	...	...	...	—	—	11	—
	(3) Chronic arthritis	...	...	...	—	—	31	3
F.	Venereal Disease	...	...	...	—	—	11	—
G.	Puerperal Pyrexia—							
	(a) Women confined in the hospital	...	...	...	—	—	40	2
	(b) Other cases	...	...	...	—	—	11	4
H.	Other Diseases and Accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth	...	...	...	27	52	454	1
I.	Mental Diseases—							
	(a) Senile Dementia	...	...	...	—	—	4	—
	(b) Other	...	...	...	—	—	16	—
J.	Senile Decay	...	...	...	—	—	56	—
K.	Accidental Injury and Violence	...	...	...	10	1	64	7
<i>In respect of cases not included above:</i>								
L.	Disease of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	...	...	...	35	7	125	49
M.	Disease of the Respiratory System				96	9	227	62
N.	" " Circulatory	"	"	"	6		288	183
O.	" " Digestive	"	"	"	65	11	390	40
P.	" " Genito-urinary	"	"	"	14	1	227	55
Q.	" " Skin	...	...	...	80	—	91	2
R.	Other Diseases	...	...	...	188	—	51	29
S.	Mothers and Infants discharged from maternity wards and not included in above figures—							
	Mothers	...	...	...	—	—	893	—
	Infants	...	...	...	886	—	—	—
T.	Any persons not falling under any of the above headings...	...	...	...	7	—	16	2
TOTALS					1477	97	3197	567

Statement of Cancer Patients for the Year.

Total number of Patients admitted to Hospitals of the Council, 94.

III.

SITES	I.		II.				III.	
	Patients admitted after previous advice or treatment at another hospital providing radiation as well as operative treatment.		Patients admitted after previous advice or treatment at another hospital providing operative but not radiation treatment.				Patients admitted without previous advice or treatment at another hospital.	
	Total Number, 6.		Total Number, 0.				Total Number, 88.	
	(a)	(b)	Treated at that hospital.		Not treated at that hospital		(a)	(b)
	Numbers treated at that hospital	Numbers not treated at that hospital	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	Numbers retained in Council's hospital	Numbers referred for advice and/or treatment to—
			Numbers retained in Council's hospital	Numbers referred for advice and/or treatment to a hospital providing radiation treatment	Numbers retained in Council's hospital	Numbers referred for advice and/or treatment to a hospital providing radiation treatment	(i) Hospital providing operative treatment	(ii) Hospital providing radiation as well as operative treatment
Uterus...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Tongue & Mouth	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Breast...	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4
Lip ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skin ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Larynx	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Rectum	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—
Other sites ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	55	1
TOTALS ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	80	8

Oldham Joint Hospitals Advisory Committee.

This Committee, constituted last year as a result of discussions between representatives of the Board of the Oldham Royal Infirmary and representatives of the Health Committee, was formed to co-ordinate the facilities of the Oldham Royal Infirmary and The Municipal Hospital, and to prevent the duplication and overlapping of specialised services.

A Memorandum was prepared and submitted by the General Superintendent of the Oldham Royal Infirmary, the Medical Superintendent of The Municipal Hospital and the Medical Officer of Health, outlining the services and facilities provided by the Local Authority and the Voluntary Hospital.

A Sub-Committee, consisting of Dr. C. B. Gerrard (Honorary Surgeon at the Oldham Royal Infirmary), the General Superintendent of the Oldham Royal Infirmary, the Medical Officer of Health, and the Medical Superintendent of The Municipal Hospital, was appointed to prepare a comprehensive report on this Memorandum, and to submit their observations and recommendations.

The Sub-Committee's Report, which is divided into three sections, (a) Existing Hospital Accommodation and Facilities, (b) Medical Staffs, and (c) Nursing Staffs, received the most careful consideration of the Committee, and the final report and recommendations of the Committee were then submitted for the consideration of the Board of Governors of the Oldham Royal Infirmary and the Health Committee.

Very briefly summarised, the report includes the following suggested appointments:—

(A) **Consultants:** It was recommended that in the interests of both Hospitals, Senior Members of the profession should be appointed as Consultants in the following branches:—

- (a) Gynæcology.
- (b) Genito-Urinary Surgery.
- (c) Chest Surgery.
- (d) Neurological Surgery.
- (e) General Surgery.
- (f) Medicine.

(B) **Visiting Staff:** The following appointments were recommended:—

- (a) Visiting Clinical Pathologist to the Infirmary; to make five visits to the Infirmary and one to the Hospital per week.
- (b) Visiting Dermatologist; to hold an out-patients' clinic at the Infirmary and visit in-patients at the Hospital.

(c) Visiting Genito-Urinary Surgeon; to hold an out-patients' clinic at the Infirmary and to see and treat patients at either Hospital.

(d) Visiting Physician; a personal appointment of Dr. Maher the Medical Superintendent of The Municipal Hospital as Visiting Physician to the Infirmary; to hold an out-patient clinic at the Infirmary, to concentrate on cardiac cases, and at this clinic to attend such medical cases as are discharged from the Hospital.

(C) **Additional Staff:** to The Municipal Hospital:—

(a) Visiting Anaesthetist.

(b) Visiting Gynaecologist.

Westhulme Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

This hospital consists of three hospital blocks; one of which is used for scarlet fever, another for diphtheria, and the third a small isolation block for typhoid and cases of mixed infections. There is also a pavilion for 30 cases of tuberculosis.

Strinesdale Sanatorium.

This institution has accommodation for 55 patients. All types are admitted, but preference is given to those who are ambulant. No extensive alterations have been made at this institution during the year.

Racefield Hospital, Chadderton.

This is the small-pox hospital for the area, and is maintained by the Chadderton, Royton and Crompton Joint Hospital Board. The Borough bears a proportion of the cost, but has no representation on the committee. When not required for small-pox it is rented to the Lancashire County Council and used by them as a pulmonary hospital. No small-pox cases were admitted during the year.

The Joint Hospital Board have an arrangement with the Ashton and District Small-pox Hospital Joint Board for their cases to be admitted to the Hartshead Hospital. This hospital is never closed. The staff is always in readiness to receive cases.

Greenacres Maternity Home.

There have been no alterations in this institution during the year. There are 15 beds, including one isolation bed, in the home.

Castleshaw Convalescent Home.

The Castleshaw School of Recovery, with accommodation for 22 children, was taken over by the Health Committee from the Education Committee in October, 1936, for use as a convalescent home for children. Unfortunately, owing to the difficulty experienced in getting parents to send their children to the Home, it was decided to discontinue its use for this purpose, and the premises were closed on the 31st March, 1937.

As anticipated in last year's report, the premises were opened as a Camp School on the 1st July, and children were admitted on the following day.

The value of Camp Schools needs no stressing, and their value is enhanced in the case of Oldham, where the housing and social conditions of many families are far from satisfactory.

The Education Committee and the children who were fortunate enough to stay at the camp owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Frank Lord, whose generosity made this scheme possible. For many children it was the first holiday in their life. Mr. Frank Lord has borne the entire cost of the scheme, exclusive of the salary of the teacher and transport facilities, which have been provided by the Education Committee.

Oldham Royal Infirmary.

This is a voluntary hospital of 170 beds which serves the Borough and adjacent areas. It has a large out-patient department, a fully equipped electrical and X-ray department, and a special fracture clinic. In addition to beds for general surgical patients, there is accommodation for ear, nose and throat cases, and eye cases.

The venereal diseases clinic is held at this institution, and much of the pathological work of the Health Department is carried out in its laboratory.

Nursing Homes.

There is one nursing home in the Borough, of 18 beds, which is managed by a committee on which the local medical practitioners are well represented.

The Westwood Park Institution.

This serves the Oldham County Borough and part of the Lancashire County Area, including Chadderton, Middleton, Crompton, Royton, Shaw and Lees.

The Institution provides accommodation for male and female able-bodied persons, for chronic and infirm persons who are not acute medical or surgical cases, and for mental cases.

Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.

There are six District Medical Officers, who are under the control of the Public Assistance Committee.

There have been no developments or alterations in the arrangements for Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.

This service, which is under the control of the Public Assistance Committee, is as follows:—

(a) Number of Medical Relief Districts	12
--	-----	-----	-----	----

- (b) Number of Districts included in (a) in which open-choice system of medical relief has been introduced None
- (c) Number of District Medical Officers 6
- (d) Number of officers included in (c) whose whole time is devoted to public health service None

Oldham Council for Mental Health.

This is a voluntary association which is affiliated to the National Council for Mental Hygiene. The subject of mental health has received little attention in the past, but its importance is slowly being recognised. The work of this society is pioneer in character, and its activities should be recorded. I am indebted to Miss Elizabeth Martland, the honorary secretary, for the following report:—

In spite of the obstacles due to international tension, and the consequent preoccupation of members of the Council with Air Raid Precaution and other defence services, a good deal of useful work was accomplished during 1938.

At the Annual Meeting in January, the chair was taken by the Mayor of Oldham, and Miss Ena Steel, the organising secretary of the Manchester Moral Welfare Association, spoke with her accustomed grace and good sense on the fascinating subject of "Psychology and Morals." There followed a valuable discussion, involving problems of delinquency and the penal code, in the course of which there arose a sharp difference of opinion as to the merits and efficacy of corporal punishment.

In February and March, four Lectures were arranged with the help of the National Council for Mental Hygiene. Dr. Grace Calver of London opened with an Address on aspects of mental efficiency and home life. Dr. Ralph Crowley, formerly Chief Medical Officer to the Board of Education, followed with a most excellent and delightful discourse upon mental health and efficiency in the school, with special reference to the needs of many children classified as "dull and backward," for whom, in his opinion, more adequate provision should be made. This point was taken up with enthusiasm by teachers and justices present, who had first-hand experience of the unfortunate results of our educational system as it is organised today. The third lecture, a very able and entertaining one, was given by Mr. Royds, at that time Assistant Director of Education for Oldham, on the subject of mental health and efficiency in the office. The chair was taken by Mr. Harold Hague, President of the Oldham Chamber of Commerce, who not only opened the Meeting with words of wit and wisdom, but led a lively discussion afterwards in which many questions of practical interest were hotly debated.

Mr. Mitchell of the Institute of Industrial Psychology wound up the series with a stimulating account of the work of his department with regard to mental health and efficiency in the factory

and workshop. The Lecturer's description of his research work and its application to such matters as the prevention of accidents, illness and unnecessary fatigue; of faulty work and waste; and of personal unhappiness caused by the choice of uncongenial occupations by young people leaving school aroused much interest and good-natured controversy. It was felt that all the Lecturers had not only broken fresh ground but had also been the means of attracting new groups of supporters from the community as a whole.

During November and December, a further series of three Addresses by members of the Council proved extremely interesting. Dr. Ward, the Deputy Medical Officer of Health, led off with a most thoughtful and practical paper on "The Measurement of Intelligence." Mr. Collier contributed a learned and witty discourse on "The Measurement of Attainment"; and Mr. Reginald Edwards brought the series to a close with a Lecture-Demonstration on "The Measurement of Emotional Response," which awakened keen interest—especially his experiments with apparatus of his own invention on three nice little boys. Some of the members present wondered what their unconscious minds would have brought forth had they been tested instead, and were glad to be excused. Mr. Edwards' work is receiving recognition far beyond Oldham, and his apparatus is in use in one of the large Mental Hospitals. As chairman of all these Meetings, Mr. Royds performed the function of "compère" with his accustomed energy and ability.

Educational experience of another type was afforded by three visits to places of interest on July 15th and 16th. By kind permission of the Manchester Education Authority, a few members of the Council spent a delightful morning at the Gorton Special School for High-grade Mental Defectives. As far as they were able to judge, the training of the children was of a very high order, and they were greatly impressed with the standard of handwork shown and with the obvious enthusiasm of both teachers and taught. The afternoon was spent at Welfare House, Victoria Park, a centre for low-grade mental defectives under the auspices of the South-East Lancashire Mental Welfare Association. Here again commendable effort and patience was seen in dealing with less hopeful material; and here again the members were received with the greatest kindness, and shown everywhere and everything. On the following day a larger party visited the Alice Briggs Remand Home at Heaton Mersey. Exhaustive investigations and enquiries were made into all the intricacies of that most praiseworthy institution; and the kindly superintendent and his wife entered with zest into the various discussions that arose on the tour of inspection and over the tea so hospitably provided.

It is encouraging to note that the organisers of Saddleworth Health Week, last autumn, included mental hygiene in their programme; and it was a great pleasure to the Oldham Council to be able to give assistance in finding a speaker.

It is gratifying, also, to observe that the B.B.C. has thought fit to repeat on other wave-lengths the series of Talks on children and their behaviour problems which they arranged at our instigation last year.

Mr. Royds, now Director of Education for Rochdale, but still a regular attender at the Meetings of the Council, has been of service to the Home Office in his investigations on the causes of juvenile delinquency in Oldham. Enquiries which he carried out on his own initiative, during the last few years, are now being undertaken officially on similar lines, and his reports and statistics have proved extremely valuable to the department concerned. His work on this subject has also been quoted in "English Juvenile Courts," an important book recently published by Miss Winifred Elkin.

Another member of our Council, Dr. Mary Cardwell, has published books and articles introducing mental hygiene and its place in the life of the community.

These and other members of the Council have shown active interest in the Criminal Justice Bill now before Parliament, and an attempt has been made to give careful and unprejudiced study to its provisions, based on fact and instructed opinion rather than hasty impressions and personal bias. The Honorary Secretary was privileged to attend a Conference at the Home Office at which Sir Samuel Hoare gave an address on the very day upon which he introduced that great measure of reform in the House of Commons on its second reading.

On the administrative side, the Borough Council of Oldham and its Public Assistance Committee, have shown much concern for the mental patients under their care. Efforts have been made to increase our representation upon the Lancashire Mental Hospitals Board, and a deputation has been to Preston to see what can be done about removing our cases more speedily to the mental hospitals for treatment. Other measures of reform are in contemplation. We are fortunate in having Councillors and officials who are really keen on the welfare of our cases.

Owing to so many changes at the Education Office, little progress has been made of late with regard to psychological advice for unstable school-children. The Education Committee has gone so far as to ask for the services of a psychologist. The teachers have done their utmost to further the scheme. Everybody in touch with the children seems to be convinced of the need. The Head Teachers are well aware of the existence in the schools of children whose nerves and emotions are showing signs of abnormality. Medical Practitioners are complaining that there is no Child Guidance for little patients of that type. Parents are complaining that they cannot get expert treatment for their problem children. The maladjusted children of today tend to become the unsatisfactory

citizens of tomorrow. If only they could have the medical attention they need, the world would be a saner and a safer place. One feels ashamed that so little progress has been made for these children—too many disasters occur in their after life. If England wants a healthy, well-balanced, capable population, she should surely take steps to secure it. Various reports on the work of the Council have been called for and supplied in the course of the year. The Medical Officer of Health again did us the honour of including a paragraph on our activities in his Annual Report, a privilege we deeply appreciate. Similar notices appeared in the Annual Reports of the Central Committee for Mental Welfare and the National Council for Mental Hygiene. Other activities included the provision of information and literature and a number of interviews with people in need of advice and help. It is unfortunate that all the mental health units of the town could not be co-ordinated and centralised so that patients and their relations would know where to go for necessary guidance. If only it were possible for us to have a mental health committee and office as part and parcel of our health service under the Corporation, such as there is at Portsmouth, much could be done to pull together preventive work, treatment and after-care into an efficient system.

In conclusion, our thanks are due to the local authority and its officials for continued support, and to many other friends without whom the work could not go on. Meanwhile, a mass of human suffering and human need awaits alleviation; and progress is slow.

Examination of Entrants to the Corporation Service.

Early in the year the Council adopted the provisions of the Local Government and Other Officers Superannuation Act, 1922, and delegated to the Medical Officer of Health and his medical staff the examination of all entrants to the service. The "appointed day" for this purpose was May 20th, and since this date 155 entrants to other Departments of the Corporation have been examined.

National Campaign to encourage the wider use of the Health Services.

In connection with this campaign, inaugurated with a broadcast speech by the Prime Minister in October, 1937, much valuable work was done in drawing public attention to the various health services available in the Borough.

Wide distribution of posters, display-cards, illustrated leaflets, bookmarks, etc., was arranged, thanks to the willing co-operation of all the Municipal Departments, Schools, factories, workshops, shops, clubs, public-houses, and public buildings generally.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Exhibition of their activities was held at the end of January. Exhibits also included were kindly loaned by the N.S.P.C.C., the Nursery Schools Association, and the Society for Cultural Relations with Soviet Russia. Daily displays of physical exercises were given by local school-children. The Milk Publicity Council very kindly supplied the necessary apparatus and carried out daily programmes of film shows. An assortment of educational films had been loaned to us for the Exhibition, in addition to those loaned by the Milk Publicity Council, dealing with Diphtheria Immunisation, Nursery Schools, Open-Air Schools, Conquest of Tuberculosis.

In the week commencing March 9th, a programme of Mass Meetings, Parents' Conferences, Women's Meetings, and educational film shows, was arranged and carried out under the auspices of the British Social Hygiene Council. These Meetings and Conferences were fairly well attended, and much valuable ground was gained as a result of their efforts on our behalf.

Section III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Central Welfare and Ante-Natal Centre is situated in offices adjacent to the Health Department. The premises are hopelessly inadequate, and anything but attractive to the young and sensitive mother. In the scheme of capital expenditure for the five years ending March 31st, 1943, the Health, and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees included the cost of a Health Centre which would provide adequate accommodation for the Maternity and Child Welfare service, and also centralise in one building all the activities of the Health Department. It is to be regretted that this recommendation did not receive the approval of the Finance Committee, and was deleted from the final proposals for capital expenditure.

The various centres in the town, with times and places of meeting are set out below.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Centre	Day of Meeting	Hours
Central, Town Hall Infant Welfare	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	2 to 5 p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	Monday	2 to 5 p.m.
Infant Clinic and Maternity Welfare	Tuesday & Thursday	10 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.
Hollinwood Church Institute, Incline Road	Thursday	2 to 5 p.m.
St. Barnabas School, Balfour Street	Wednesday	2 to 5 p.m.
Copster School, Copsterhill Road	Tuesday	2 to 5 p.m.
Methodist Mission Hall, York Street	Tuesday	2 to 5 p.m.
Methodist School, Ripponden Road	Thursday	2 to 5 p.m.
Hope Chapel, Abbeyhills	Wednesday	2 to 5 p.m.

At the Branch Centres, the Infant Consultations and School for Mothers are held on alternate weeks.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is also held in connection with the Maternity Unit at The Municipal Hospital. Patients attend for the first consultation on Monday afternoons between 2 and 4 p.m. Subsequent consultations are held on Tuesday afternoons, 2 to 4 p.m., Wednesday mornings, 10 to 12 a.m., and Friday evenings, 5 to 7 p.m. This ante-natal service is for the use of such expectant mothers as have booked maternity beds in the hospital.

The following figures relate to attendances at the Central Welfare during 1938:—

Number of Individual Cases who attended and who, at the end of the year, were—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	170	
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	301	
					<hr/>	471

Number of Attendances (mother and baby count as one)—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	4,987	
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	4,163	
					<hr/>	9,150

Total Number of New Cases who attended—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	216	
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	25	
					<hr/>	241

Total Number of Sessions 146

Average Attendance per Session 62

Total Number of Doctor's Consultations 2,024

The following figures relate to the work of the Branch Centres during 1938:—

Name of Centre	Sessions Held	New Cases Attending	Individual Cases Attending Under 1 year 1—5 years		Average Attendance	Total No. of Attendances
Hollinwood	46	172	130	170	87	4,000
York Street	46	204	139	312	100	4,557
S. Barnabas	46	235	130	310	86	3,944
Copster	46	206	121	179	92	4,229
Ripponden Rd....	47	166	138	202	84	3,955
Hope	45	122	84	208	68	3,055
TOTALS	276	1,105	742	1,381	517	23,740

The Central Ante-Natal Clinic.

Facilities for Consultation.

The Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, Dr. Margaret J. T. Leitch, attends at the Ante-Natal Clinic, Town Hall Centre, on Monday afternoon, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and arrangements can be made for patients to attend for her opinion.

The Consulting Obstetrician, Dr. E. A. Gerrard, attends once a month at the Ante-Natal Clinic, Town Hall Centre, on the first Monday, at 2-30 p.m., and at The Municipal Hospital once a month, on the third Monday, at 2-30 p.m. Arrangements can be made for him to see at these clinics cases referred by medical practitioners. It is necessary for practitioners who desire to avail themselves of this facility to arrange with the Medical Officer of Health for an appointment, and to send to him, or with the patient, a letter of introduction, which should contain brief details of the case.

Practitioners will be aware that, under the Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1926, the services of the Consultant may be obtained by any practitioner in charge of a case of puerperal fever or puerperal pyrexia.

Approval has now been given by the Minister of Health for the extension of Consultant Service to any doctor who needs assistance in difficulty or complications arising during pregnancy or at or after confinement. Practitioners who desire the Consultant (Dr. E. A. Gerrard) during a confinement should obtain his services through the Medical Officer of Health, except in case of urgency, when they should communicate with Dr. E. A. Gerrard personally.

The following figures give particulars of attendances:—

Number of Sessions held	...	...	...	50
Total Attendances	...	...	...	1,223
Average Attendance per Session	...	...	...	24
Number of New Cases attending	...	...	...	163
Number of Cases referred to Consultant...	...	...	...	157
Number of Sessions held by Consultant...	...	...	...	12
Total Attendances	...	...	...	178

Emergency Maternity Unit.

During the year arrangements were made with St. Mary's Hospitals, Manchester, for the use of their Emergency Maternity Unit, or "Flying Squad," for patients in the County Borough of Oldham Area.

This service is available to all practitioners in the area, for cases where hospital treatment may be required immediately for pregnant or parturient women, but removal to hospital would be dangerous owing to the patient's condition.

The personnel and equipment of the Unit is provided and maintained by St. Mary's Hospitals, and the Medical Service is rendered by the Visiting Obstetric Staff.

The arrangements with St. Mary's Hospitals are as follows:—

- (a) In the event of a practitioner having occasion to require the services of the Maternity Unit for a patient resident in the Oldham County Borough Area, he should telephone direct to St. Mary's Hospitals, Manchester.
- (b) The Hospital Authorities will be responsible for summoning a conveyance to transport the Sister and equipment to the case, and also summoning a member of the Visiting Obstetric Staff who will make his own way to the case.
- (c) A weekly rota of the Visiting Obstetric Staff is maintained, and from this is selected the officer on call for the week.
- (d) The charges made for the use of this service are as follows:— Two guineas per case to the Hospital Authorities, plus the cost of Transporting the Sister and equipment, and Six guineas per case to the Visiting Obstetric Surgeon, plus one shilling per mile in travelling to and from the case.

The Unit became available to Medical Practitioners in Oldham during the month of August. There was one call upon it, on the 2nd September, the reason being "Post partum hæmorrhage and partially retained placenta," and it is gratifying to report the most satisfactory result in this case.

The Greenacres Maternity Home.

During the year 260 cases were admitted and 257 delivered, 78 being attended by the staff and 179 by doctors. This compares with 236 admissions for the previous year.

There were 258 babies born, 3 of which were stillbirths.

There were six deaths within 10 days of birth and no maternal deaths.

Three cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified.

The Home was opened on September 25th, 1928, and since this date 2,487 patients have been admitted, 2,363 babies have been born living, and 81 stillborn.

It is the intention of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee to transfer the maternity work to the new Maternity Unit which is now in course of erection in the grounds of The Municipal Hospital.

Births.

The Notification of Births Act requires that all births should be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of occurrence. During the year 1,733 notifications were received, relating to 1,658 live births and 75 still births. In addition there were 486 notifications received which were transferred to the Medical Officers of the Authorities concerned.

The 1,733 live and still births were notified by the following:—

Midwives	...	...	...	...	1,022
Doctors and Parents	...	...	...	...	711

Transferred Births.

The names and addresses of 660 infants and young children who left the Borough (including those children born in Oldham Hospitals whose home addresses were outside the district) were notified to Medical Officers of the areas of their destination, and 98 notified as coming to live in the Borough.

Health Visiting.

The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors:—

Visits to Newly-born Infants	...	...	...	...	1,739
Re-visits—Infants under 12 months	...	...	...	...	4,572
Infants 1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	10,898
Visits to—Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	...	...	63
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	21
Measles	...	...	...	...	793
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	281
Infantile Deaths	...	...	...	...	97
Still Births	...	...	...	...	68
Ante-Natal Cases	...	...	...	...	778
Number of Sessions held at the Welfare Centres	...	...	...	...	276
Attendances at the Centres by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	594
Number of Swabs taken, re diphtheria contacts	...	...	...	...	2,136

Supervision of Midwives.

Sixty-four midwives notified their intention to practise during the year, compared with 65 in 1937. Of these, 39 notifications related to midwives in private practice, and 25 to nurses in The Greenacres Maternity Home and The Municipal Hospital.

During the year several visits were made by the Supervisor of Midwives for the purpose of inspecting the source of infectious disease occurring in the midwives' practices.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the Borough :—

Stillbirths	24
Notification of death	17
Artificial Feeding	52
Liability to be a source of infection	7

There were 327 Medical Aid Forms sent in by midwives. This figure compares with 280 for the previous year. The conditions for which medical aid was sought were as follows :—

Conditions in Mother		Conditions in Child	
1. Ante Partum Hæmorrhage	8	1. Feebleness or Premature ...	7
2. Abortion or Threatened Abortion	2	2. Discharging Eyes ...	18
3. Other Ante-Natal Conditions	26	3. Other Conditions	35
4. Delayed Labour	78		
5. Occipito Posterior	2		
6. Other Malpresentations ...	12		
7. Adherent Placenta	5		
8. Ruptured Perineum	85		
9. Placenta Prævia	3		
10. Post Partum Hæmorrhage	2		
11. Pyrexia... ..	15		
12. Other Conditions... ..	29		
Total	267	Total	60

The total cost of these claims amounted to £335 18s. 6d. Of this amount £86 7s. 0d. was recovered from the patients.

One hundred and sixty-one routine visits were paid by the Supervisor of Midwives to the midwives during the year. The Supervisor also interviewed midwives at the Health Office on 108 occasions.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There were 11 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum notified during the year. The following are the results of these cases :—

Vision unimpaired	10
Vision impaired	—
Still under treatment	1
Died	—
Removed from district	—

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Thirty-one cases of pyrexia were notified during the year. Seventeen cases occurred in The Municipal Hospital, 3 in Green-acres Maternity Home, 1 in Woodfield Nursing Home, and 10 were notified by private practitioners.

It is probable that many cases confined in their own homes showed pyrexia during the puerperium, and were not notified.

Infant Life Protection.

The supervision of infants under the age of nine years received for maintenance and reward is carried out by the Health Visitors. In addition to being visited frequently, the children are medically examined at the various Infant Welfare Centres.

The following are the figures for the year:—

(i) Number of Foster Parents on the register—			
(a) at the beginning of the year	...	...	20
(b) at the end of the year	...	...	16
(ii) Number of Children on register—			
(a) at the beginning of the year	...	...	20
(b) at the end of the year	...	...	16
(c) who died during the year	...	...	—
New Cases during the year	...	...	3
Total Cases for 1938	...	...	23

Removed from register during year—

Returned to Parents	...	...	...	4
Over 9 years	...	...	...	1
Adopted by Foster Parents	...	...	...	2

Assisted Milk Supply.

Assisted milk is allowed to mothers and children who attend the Welfare Centres and are, in the opinion of the Assistant Medical Officer, in need of this nourishment. It is also allowed to children who are unable to attend school, are of school age, and are certified by a medical practitioner as being in need of it. These cases are not numerous and usually only receive milk for a short period.

Expectant mothers are granted one pint of milk per day, or its equivalent in dried milk, after the first visit to the Ante-Natal Clinic. Cod liver oil and malt or Virol is also granted if it is necessary.

Infants receive one pint of milk per day until the age of three years, except from the fourth to the ninth month, when the amount is one and a half pints; after this it is allowed at the discretion of the Assistant Medical Officer, and only in special circumstances.

The income scale which is applied to applicants for milk or food under the Maternity and Child Welfare Assisted Milk Scheme is also applied to applicants for school meals and milk.

During the year 16,890 lbs. of dried milk, costing £1,154 9s. 3d., and 20,802 gallons of liquid milk, costing £1,886 16s. 6d. (supplied by local farmers), was supplied free to children and expectant and nursing mothers. There were 98½ lbs. of Virol, costing £9 17s. 0d., and 689 lbs. of cod liver oil and malt, costing £20 1s. 11d., also supplied under this scheme.

No arrangements exist for the supply of meals to expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age.

Dental Treatment.

The arrangements for the dental treatment of expectant mothers were as last year. Arrangements exist with the Education Committee for the work to be undertaken by the Senior Dental Officer, Mr. D. Gibson, whose report is as follows:—

The arrangements for the dental inspection and treatment of necessitous expectant mothers remained unaltered.

The dental service is complete in that those patients are eligible for all dental treatment necessary to secure dental fitness including the provision of dentures when required for restoration of function.

The annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1937, dealt exhaustively with the need for the development of this service and the need for the institution of a service for the routine dental inspection and treatment of children of pre-school age.

Expectant Mothers.

There has been a considerable increase in the work of the department during 1938. It is encouraging to be able to report that more patients have availed themselves of the facilities offered and to note the increasing appreciation of the service by those mothers who have been sensible enough to make use of the service. Many expectant mothers have unreasonable prejudices against dental treatment during pregnancy, but this problem is not peculiar to Oldham and it will be solved gradually by educative measures, and by the provision of satisfactory treatment for those mothers who do attend the dental clinic.

It is noticeable that most of the dental treatment consisted of dental extractions and the provisions of dentures, and that there have been very few fillings inserted in natural teeth. These results

are in accordance with results in other parts of the country, and although it would be ideal if the service could be developed to allow of more treatment of a preventative nature, for the purpose of restoration of a healthy natural dentition, it is pointed out that for obvious reasons it will take a considerable period of years to attain such an ideal. It is satisfactory to know that many patients have been restored to dental fitness by artificial means and that this has markedly improved their general health during the vital terms of pregnancy and nursing.

Dental inspection and treatment has been undertaken during a weekly evening session, held at Cannon Street Dental Clinic by arrangement with the Education Committee. This arrangement is not altogether satisfactory as it necessitates that all treatment is carried out in the evening. In most cases the patients are mothers with household responsibilities which entail much hard work and the present arrangement allows them no alternative but to attend for treatment at a time of the evening when they are often very tired and therefore not in a suitable condition to undergo certain operative procedures. It must be stated that the lack of suitable and adequate facilities for operation under general anæsthesia is a definite handicap to the service.

At present a survey of the service is being carried out and already certain administrative changes have been effected to permit of closer contact between the two departments concerned in the maintenance of the dental service.

Children of Pre-School Age.

At present there are no arrangements for dental inspection and treatment of pre-school age children, but it is possible that such arrangements will be established in the near future.

It is most desirable that all these children should be under dental supervision from an early age, that the service should be established on the system of regular periodic inspection and treatment as applied to school children, and that the service should be completely co-ordinated with the services for mothers and school children.

It is a pleasure to record that the Committee is fully aware of the shortcomings of the present dental services of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department and that these matters are receiving consideration in accordance with the Committee's progressive policy.

Statistical details are appended of dental inspection and treatment of necessitous expectant mothers for the year 1938. The figures in brackets indicate the corresponding figures for the year 1937.

	1938	1937
No. of expectant mothers referred by the Medical Officer for dental inspection and treatment... ..	67	(46)
No. actually treated	67	(46)
No. of attendances made for treatment	478	(144)
No. of cases completed	29†	
No. of permanent teeth extracted	685	(228)
No. of permanent teeth filled	16	(11)
No. of other operations (scalings and gum treatment, etc.)	241	(92)
No. of dentures supplied	38*	(7)
No. of local anæsthetics	399	(226)
No. of general anæsthetics	4	(2)
No. of sessions devoted to inspection and treatment...	56½	

*In addition 2 dentures remodelled.

2 dentures relined.

1 denture repaired.

†In addition a number of cases await completion during 1939.

The Orthopædic Clinic.

The Orthopædic Clinic provides treatment for cases from the School Medical Department, the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, the Tuberculosis Dispensary, and cases referred by private practitioners. The Orthopædic Surgeon (Mr. H. Poston) is on the staff of the Municipal Hospital, and operative treatment is provided here when necessary.

The arrangements made in the previous year for suitable cases to attend from the School for Physical Defectives were continued.

The artificial sunlight apparatus consists of one "British Hanovia Quartz Vapour Lamp" and two "Jesionch Mercury Vapour Lamps" for collective treatment. They have been fully employed throughout the year.

In July, 1937, a two-power Infra-Red Ray Generator was installed.

This clinic is doing work of real preventive and curative character, and the results reflect the greatest credit on the staff and donor—the late Mr. Richard Greenhalgh.

The following table shows the defects from which the cases examined by the Orthopædic Surgeon were suffering, and the results of treatment :—

Defects.	Discharged			Still Attending		Discontinued		Total
	Cured	Impd.	I.S.Q.	Impd.	I.S.Q.	Impd.	I.S.Q.	
Fractures	5	—	2	5	—	—	1	13
Synovitis	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	5
Sprains	6	3	—	5	—	3	6	23
Hallux Valgus	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Torticollis	4	—	—	4	1	—	1	10
Muscular Rheumatism	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	5
Rheumatoid Arthritis	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5
Osteo-Arthritis	1	—	—	7	1	1	1	11
Infective Arthritis	1	1	—	10	—	1	—	13
Spondylitis	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Sciatica	1	1	—	2	—	1	—	5
Ant. Poliomyelitis	1	2	—	15	—	—	—	18
Osteomyelitis	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Hammer Toe	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	5
Rickets	7	—	—	98	—	11	3	119
Pseudocoxalgia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Weakness of Legs	—	2	—	6	—	2	—	10
Pes Cavus	2	—	—	3	—	—	1	6
Pes Planus	9	—	1	8	—	1	—	19
Congenital Talipes	2	—	—	19	—	2	—	23
Congenital Deformities	—	—	—	3	3	—	2	8
Spinal Curvature	1	—	—	8	1	—	—	10
Spastic Paralysis	—	1	—	12	1	1	—	15
Other Conditions	11	—	1	9	1	3	2	27
T.B. Adenitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
T.B. Hip	—	—	—	9	—	3	—	12
T.B. Spine	—	—	—	14	4	—	—	18
T.B. Thigh	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
T.B. Knee	—	1	—	2	3	2	—	8
T.B. Elbow	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
T.B. Dactylitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
T.B. Wrist	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3
T.B. Ankle	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	58	11	4	257	18	36	20	404

These cases were referred as follows :—

School Medical Department	116
Infant Welfare Centre	157
Private Practitioners	84
Tuberculosis Dispensary	47
Total	404

The following treatments were recommended by the Surgeon :—

				School	M. & C.W.	T.B.	Private	Total
Massage	...	...	...	2	5	1	8	16
Stretchings	...	...	...	7	10	—	—	17
Splints	...	...	...	15	89	4	1	109
Adaptions to Boots	...	...	...	48	69	4	13	134
Plasters	...	...	...	3	3	8	5	19
Strappings	...	...	...	2	6	—	7	15
Postural and Remedial Ex's.	...	...	...	27	7	—	9	43
Hospital Treatment	...	...	...	10	6	6	11	33
U.V.R.	...	...	...	6	89	4	2	101
Infra Red	...	...	...	3	—	3	11	17
Dressings	...	...	...	2	—	4	7	13
Electricity	...	...	...	5	—	—	7	12
Radiant Heat	...	...	...	9	2	2	35	48
Surgical Appliances	...	...	...	5	1	18	5	29
Sinusoidal Bath	...	...	...	—	—	1	4	5
Observation	...	...	...	29	10	18	13	70
Totals				173	297	73	138	681

The following table shows the cases treated by Artificial Sunlight and the results obtained :—

Defects	New Cases.	Remain- ing from 1937	Total.	Discharged		Discontinued		Still under treat- ment at end of 1938	
				Imp.	I.S.Q.	Imp.	I.S.Q.	Imp.	I.S.Q.
Debility and									
Anæmia	106	8	114	29	—	12	16	54	3
Bronchitis	23	1	24	8	—	1	7	8	—
Rickets	89	25	114	3	—	17	7	77	10
Skin Diseases	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
Alopecia	9	2	11	6	—	1	—	4	—
Weakness	7	1	8	1	—	2	2	3	—
of Legs									
Calcaneus Valgus	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—
T. B. Adenitis	31	16	47	8	—	4	9	25	1
T.B. Abdomen	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
T.B. Bones & Joints	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	3	—
Lupus	5	6	11	—	—	1	1	9	—
Torticollis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Inf. Arthritis	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Other Conditions	9	7	16	6	—	1	1	8	—
Totals	288	70	358	61	—	39	44	200	14

The following table shows the attendances at the Orthopædic Clinic during the year :—

		M.C.W.	Sch.	T.B.	Private	Total
Mr. Poston	...	501	408	239	247	1395
U.V.R.	...	3558	1872	1172	251	6853
Massage	...	41	21	9	318	389
Exercises	...	48	340	71	147	606
R. Heat	...	24	185	9	460	678
I. Red	...	—	140	137	557	834
Electricity	...	—	100	26	441	567
Splint	...	57	57	11	44	169
Plaster	...	6	5	16	4	31
Totals	...	4235	3128	1690	2469	11522

Maternity Homes.

The Greenacres Maternity Home is the only one in the Borough. During the year no new homes were registered or applications for registration received.

Nursing Homes.

There is one registered in the Borough—the Woodfield Nursing Home—which receives medical, surgical and maternity cases. During the year no new homes were registered or applications for registration received.

Oldham Day Nursery.

This was established in 1905 and is a voluntary institution managed by a committee. Since it has been re-built and re-organised, it leaves little to be desired in structure, equipment or administration, and to us, as missionaries of healthy living, it never ceases to bear out all the precepts which it is our duty to expound. After a few weeks at the Day Nursery every child, no matter what its condition or temperament was on admission, is transformed into a happy, healthy, rosy-cheeked child, with an individuality of its own. This establishment is a very definite asset to the town, and we only wish there were more of them.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee now make an annual grant of £150 to the Day Nursery Committee.

I am indebted to Mrs. Rountree, the Honorary Secretary, for the following report :—

The year 1938 was the first full year of working after the re-organisation. The enlarged premises, including residential quarters for the staff, were formally opened by The Mayoress, Mrs. G. Howcroft, on June 1st. The Nursery is now a training school for probationers, and the two in residence sat the first theoretical

examination of their course in December. Credit is due to the Matron who trained them and to the probationers themselves, as both have been successful in this examination.

There has been a good deal of unemployment in the district during the past year which occasionally keeps regular babies away, but Matron is continually receiving enquiries, and it is certain that the Nursery is appreciated. At the Annual Mothers' Party the comments of the mothers themselves, overheard by staff and committee, left no doubt on that subject whatsoever.

During the year there have been 4,471 attendances at the Nursery.

Maternal Mortality.

During the year there were 8 deaths attributed to or associated with childbirth. Of these cases 4 were true maternal deaths, giving a maternal mortality rate of 2.28 per thousand total live and still births.

All maternal deaths are investigated, and the reports are forwarded to the Ministry of Health. These reports are of a confidential nature, and therefore only a brief statement can be made upon them.

The cause of death in each case was as follows:—

A—DEATHS DUE TO SEPSIS: 4.

Case No. 1. Age 34.

Cause of Death: I. (a) Broncho-pneumonia.
(b) Septicæmia.
(c) Septic Abortion.

Case No. 2. Age 35.

Cause of Death: I. (a) Toxæmia.
(b) Puerperal sepsis.

Case No. 3. Age 34.

Cause of Death: I. (a) General Peritonitis.
(b) Tubo Ovarian Abscess.
II. Pregnancy.

Case No. 4. Age 39.

Cause of Death: I. (a) Septicæmia.
(b) Peritonitis.
(c) Incomplete Abortion.

B—DEATHS DUE TO OTHER PUERPERAL CAUSES: 0.

C—DEATHS ASSOCIATED WITH PREGNANCY: 4.

Case No. 5. Age 36.

Cause of Death: I. (a) Acute Lobar Pneumonia.
II. Pregnancy.

Case No. 6. Age 35.

- Cause of Death: I. (a) Acute Myocardial failure.
 (b) Auricular Fibrillation.
 II. Parturition 2 days previously.

Case No. 7. Age 28.

- Cause of Death: I. (a) Acute Heart Failure.
 (b) Toxic Myocarditis.
 (c) Chronic Nephritis and old gall bladder infection.
 II. Pregnancy and enlarged spleen.

Case No. 8. Age 35.

- Cause of Death: I. (a) Myocardial Failure.
 (b) Chronic Nephritis.

It is gratifying to record a maternal mortality rate of 2.28, and this is a credit to the staff of the department, and the work done by them. This figure is the lowest ever recorded for Oldham, and compares with 2.97 for England and Wales. We hope and trust that at long last a low maternal mortality rate will be maintained, but it is extremely doubtful if such a low figure as 2.28 can be repeated.

During the year further consideration was given to the Special Report which was prepared on Circular 1622, "Maternal Mortality."

As a result of this report, certain improvements in the service were effected:—

- (a) Arrangements were made for the Emergency Service established by St. Mary's Hospitals, Manchester, to serve the Borough.
- (b) The Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare is now a full-time appointment, and this officer does not undertake duties at Westhulme Hospital.
- (c) Professor Daniel Dougal of Manchester University very kindly agreed to scrutinise the records relating to maternal deaths. Arrangements were also made for him to address the Private Practitioners of the Borough on "Maternal Mortality," and he did so on April 5th. The lecture was attended by about twenty practitioners, and was much appreciated. He expressed his willingness to give further lectures next year if we so desire.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

At the commencement of the year six Municipal Midwives were in the employ of the Council. During the year an additional midwife was appointed, but resigned after two months' service, and for domestic reasons another one resigned in November. With two new appointments made in December, the number employed at the end of the year was seven.

During the year three midwives in private practice surrendered their Central Midwives Board Certificates, and compensation amounting to £435, £146 and £307 respectively, was paid to them.

The total amount of compensation paid in respect of the surrender of certificates from the operation of the Act amounted to £992 9s. 0d.

No midwives were compulsorily retired under the Act.

It is anticipated that several private midwives will voluntarily surrender their certificates before the 30th of July next. This will necessitate a further increase in the number of Municipal Midwives, and make more necessary the appointment of a full-time Supervisor for this service.

The following is a summary of the work done by the Municipal Midwives during the year:—

Confinements—

Number of Cases booked ...	...	...	467
Number of Confinements attended	...	...	400

Visits—

Ante-Natal Visits ...	...	...	2,432
Visits during Lying-in Period ...	...	...	6,899
Post-Natal Visits ...	...	...	332

Fees—

Patients paying Full Fee ...	...	...	320
Patients paying Reduced Fee ...	...	...	101
Necessitous Cases (no fee) ...	...	...	46
Amount of Fees received...	...	£596	3 0

During the year 1,733 live and still births were notified, and of this number 801 (or 46.2%) were institutional, and 932 (or 53.8%) were domiciliary confinements. 400 (or 42.9%) of the domiciliary confinements were attended by Municipal Midwives.

Section IV.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Water Engineer (Mr. C. J. Batley) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

During the year 1938 no new source of supply was acquired by this Department.

Extensions to mains have been carried out as rendered necessary by building developments within the area of supply.

The whole area of supply is adequately piped and supplies have been generally satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality.

A portion of the water supplied is treated by filtration, and samples of water are collected from all sources for chemical and bacteriological analysis at frequent intervals, a total of 64 samples having been submitted during the year.

The total storage capacity of all reservoirs is 2,527 million gallons, of which quantity 1,829,106,000 gallons are available for domestic supply. The area of the gathering grounds is 7,353 acres.

The estimated population supplied during 1938 was 215,406, and the average daily consumption per head was 29.15 gallons.

On December 31st, 1938, the supply in store was 2,471,862,000 gallons, or about 34 weeks supply.

The following figures show the average daily consumption of water in the supply area for the previous years:—

1932	...	...	6,332,197	gallons.
1933	...	...	6,706,541	„
1934	...	...	5,426,907	„
1935	...	...	5,943,064	„
1936	...	...	6,290,371	„
1937	...	...	6,626,683	„
1938	...	...	6,279,079	„

The daily quantity of compensation water during 1938 was 3,079,288 gallons.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Sewage Works are under the entire control of the Manager, Mr. J. Taylor, who reports direct to the Health Committee. He has supplied the following report:—

Sewage Works Annual Report.

The system for the treatment of the Oldham Sewage was entirely altered with the completion of the scheme, designed by your Consulting Engineers, Messrs. J. D. and D. M. Watson, M.M.Inst.C.E., of Westminster. Prior to this the system in vogue consisted of the following stages:—

1. Grit removal chambers.
2. Settlement in sedimentation tanks.
3. Contact bed treatment.
4. Filtration on sprinkler filters.
5. Settlement in humus tanks.

Sludge removed by settlement was pumped by ejectors to lagoons or to the Press House.

The reconstructed works were visited on Wednesday, September 7th by the Minister of Health, the Rt. Hon. W. E. Elliot, M.C., M.P., and were formally opened on Monday, October 10th, by the Chairman of the Health Committee, Alderman T. Wrigley, J.P.

At the present time the purification works have been brought up to date and enlarged to deal with an estimated population of 155,000. Sewage reaches the works by gravitation except for a very small portion, and passes through the grit chambers to the sedimentation tanks which are twelve in number, having a total capacity of 2,270,000 gallons, equal to 11.5 hours dry weather flow (D.W.F.), the function of which is to remove by settlement as much of the suspended solids as possible. Effluents from the sedimentation tanks which formerly passed to the contact beds now goes direct to the bio-flocculation tanks. These tanks have a water depth of 12 feet and are of the ridge and furrow type with air diffusers in the furrows. This partial treatment by activated sludge removes much of the colloidal matter in the presence of sufficient oxygen. The excess sludge formed during the process is pumped back into the sewage flow.

The mixed liquor from the bio-flocculation tanks passes to the separating tanks and is introduced into a stilling box in the centre. Sludge is withdrawn by hydrostatic pressure from the bottom of the coned floor. The sloping floors are scraped continuously by revolving mechanisms.

Clarified effluents pass for further treatment on to the biological filters. Ten new filters have been constructed, the clinker for these being obtained on the site, washed, graded and replaced, making a total of twenty-six filters of varying sizes. The total volume of filtering media being now 50,000 cubic yards. Final effluent is passed through humus tanks, before discharge to the Wince Brook.

An unusual amount of storm water has to be dealt with and one additional storm-water tank has been constructed, bringing the total capacity up to eight hours the dry weather flow, which exceeds the minimum required by the Ministry of Health.

During the first part of the year the routine operations were carried out with a certain amount of difficulty owing to the change over, but when this was accomplished very little difficulty was experienced with the purification.

The Aeration Plant was completed on July 25th, and after a preliminary run of the air-compressors it was decided to start operations on August 3rd. Accordingly the diffusers were covered with clean water and tested, after which settled sewage was allowed to run into one tank and afterwards into one of the separating tanks. When these were in operation a sludge re-conditioning tank was brought into use, the flow being allowed to circulate through the system. During the next few days further tanks were added as required, until by August 8th the whole of the plant was working.

Also on August 8th the whole of the flow was being put through the new plant and a clarified effluent was being obtained, but as was to be expected, only a small percentage of purification was being obtained. On two occasions the tanks were covered with a white foam about two feet deep. At the end of the year the plant was working satisfactorily, and in fact nothing disturbing took place during the preliminary operations.

Final effluents from the biological filters in the early part of the year showed a decided improvement due to the use of the extra filters, but after the treatment of the tank effluent in the activated sludge plant the effluents leaving the filters were exceptionally good, although it must be pointed out that the latter half of the year was very wet.

Perhaps the most noticeable feature from our point of view was the rapid disappearance of the grey growths on top of the filters and the small amount of humus sludge to be dealt with.

The repair work on the old filters was completed during the year. The work took about three years to complete, and during this time eight filters were repaired, emptied of clinker, approximately 20,000 tons washed and replaced. This work was carried out by Sewage Works Staff.

Until September sludge from the sedimentation tanks was pumped into a large open lagoon; after this date the sludge digestion tanks were brought into use. There are three primary tanks having a capacity of 237,000 cubic feet and four secondary tanks with a capacity of 235,000 cubic feet, a total capacity equal to 3 cubic feet per person. The primary tanks are circular, with fixed roof and separate gas holder; heated by circulation of water in internally placed heating coils; water heated by sludge gas fired boilers.

Average results expressed in parts per 100,000.
August to December.

	Sewage.	Tank Effluent.	Separating Tank Effluent.	High Level Filters.	Low Level Filters.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours test	4.99	4.40	1.54	0.86	0.98
Free Ammonia as Nitro- gen.	2.41	2.49	2.22	0.42	0.43
Albuminoid Ammonia as Nitrogen	0.56	0.49	0.25	0.16	0.13
Chlorides as Chlorine ...	9.9	10.1	9.1	9.9	9.6
Nitrites and Nitrates as Nitrogen	—	—	—	2.10	1.85
Biological Oxygen De- mand	—	—	2.62	0.73	1.00
Suspended Matter—					
Mineral	6.6	4.2	1.0	0.7	1.1
Volatile	14.2	12.4	1.7	2.0	2.0
Total	20.8	16.6	2.7	2.7	3.1

Percentage of Purification.	By 4 hours Oxygen Absorption Test.	By Albuminoid Ammonia Test.
Sewage to Final Effluent from High Level Filters	82.8	71.4
Tank Effluent to Final Effluent from H.L. Filters	80.5	67.3
Separating Tank Effluent to Final Effluent from H.L. Filters ...	44.1	36.0
Sewage to Final Effluent from Low Level Filters	80.4	76.8
Tank Effluent to Final Effluent from L.L. Filters	77.8	73.4
Separating Tank Effluent to Final Effluent from L.L. Filters ...	36.4	48.0

J. TAYLOR,

A.M.C.T., M.Inst.S.P., A.M.I.S.E.,

Manager.

Rivers and Streams.

There is no river in the town, and the water is carried away in small streams, one of which is now a main sewer and carries the water to the sewage works.

Closet Accommodation.

The total number and type of closets in the Borough at the end of 1938 and the previous four years were as follows:—

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Fresh Water Closets ...	12,875	13,542	13,871	14,458	14,718
Waste Water Closets ...	24,555	24,541	24,523	24,460	24,435
Latrines	2,846	2,823	2,751	2,642	2,642
Pail Closets	1,333	1,295	1,218	1,119	1,061

The above figures for 1938 represent 40,588 houses, 586 mills and workshops, and 255 churches and schools.

It will be seen from these figures that there are still 1,061 closets not on the water carriage system. A certain number of these will be demolished as a result of slum clearance. A large number of cases cannot be dealt with owing to the lack of or inaccessibility of the sewer.

The number of waste water closets and latrines shows little reduction in number when compared with previous years.

Public Cleansing.

The Director of Public Cleansing (Mr. A. Millward) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

There are no ashpits in the Borough. All the house refuse from the 39,428 ash cans is collected by motor vehicles. 50% is dealt with by tipping under the controlled system, and the remainder by separation and incineration at the Refuse Disposal Works.

There is only one Refuse Disposal Works, and this is situated at Rhodes Bank. The Carrying and Cleansing Committee intend to proceed with the erection of a new Refuse Disposal Works at Rhodes Bank, and this will replace the existing works.

The conversion of the sanitary pail closet to the fresh water system goes on very slowly. The Surveyor's Department are finding many engineering difficulties in the way of rapid conversion.

The collection of excreta from Pail Closets is now done with a motor vehicle fitted with a special tank, the old type horse-drawn vehicle having been withdrawn.

The following figures indicate the amount of work done during the year :—

House and Trade Refuse Collection.

Number of Ashbins emptied	2,075,688
„ Sanitary Pails emptied	59,668
„ Collections of Butchers' Offal	2,321
„ Collections of Fish Offal	20,029
„ Loads of Excreta collected	765
„ Loads of Butchers' Offal collected	527
„ Loads of Fish Offal collected	1,359
„ Tons of Ashes taken to Destructors	12,017
„ Tons of Ashes taken to Corporation Tips	13,990
„ Tons of Shoddy Dirt received	51
„ Tons of Clinker removed from Destructors	3,042
„ Tons of Baled Tins sold	260
„ Tons of Mortar sold	836
„ Tons of Shoddy Manure sent out	413

Waste Water Closets and Latrines.

Blockages cleared (W.W.C.'s)	4,216
Blockages cleared (Latrines)	8
Drains cleared	318
Drains found blocked, requiring excavating	256
Tippers found not working and re-adjusted	313
Tippers, fittings, etc., found broken	1,001
New Tippers, fittings, etc., fixed	1,097
Visits paid flushing Latrines, etc.	11,439

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION.

This work is carried out by ten assistant Sanitary Inspectors, under the direction and control of the Chief Inspector. One Assistant is employed solely on meat and other foods inspection, one on duties under the Slum Clearance Programme, and one as Inspector under the Shops Act. There are six District Inspectors, who are each responsible for one of the districts into which the town is divided. There is also one additional temporary Inspector.

The following report is submitted by Mr. Harold V. Cass, the Chief Sanitary Inspector :—

1st June, 1939.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the report upon the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the past year.

Mr. George Winterbottom, Chief Sanitary Inspector, retired in September and was responsible for the major part of the year's work.

The report is mainly statistical, but I have commented in the various sections upon any action taken or interesting features.

I have to acknowledge your courtesy and encouragement and tender to yourself and the members of the Staff my sincere thanks for their willing support and co-operation.

I beg to remain,

Yours respectfully,

HAROLD V. CASS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Number of Complaints received and visited	...	...	1,849
Re-inspection of Nuisances under notice	...	...	6,418
Number of Houses visited on complaint	...	...	2,800
Letters to Owners, Agents, etc.	...	...	139
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	2,044
Number of Informal Notices complied with	...	...	1,338
Number of Cases reported to Health Committee	...	...	708
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	227
Number of Cases dealt with by Magistrates	...	...	6

NOTICES TO OWNERS—

Accumulations	91
Choked and Defective Drains	628
Defective Roofs	286
Defective Water Pipes	54
Defective Water Closets	44
Defective Waste Water Closets	676
Defective Yard Surfaces	13
Defective Ash Bins	586
Miscellaneous	378

NOTICES SERVED ON OCCUPIERS OF HOUSES—

Dirty Conditions	11
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MISCELLANEOUS VISITS—

Number of Visits to Houses (Housing Acts and Public Health Acts)	6,873
Number of Visits to Cases of Infectious Disease	551
" " Cases of Tuberculosis... ..	15
" " Privies	9,488
" " Bakehouses	622
" " Pigsties	29
" " Tents, Vans, and Sheds	348
" " Houses Let-in-Lodgings	3,428
" " Offensive Trades	193
" " Mill Lodges	358
" " Milk Shops	601
" " Factories and Workshops	511
" " Shops (Shops Act, 1934)	3,057
Number of Smoke or other Tests	1,287
Number of Smoke Observations	663

FOOD INSPECTION—

Number of Visits paid to Slaughterhouses	6,453
Ice Cream Vendors	57
Butchers' Shops	3,125
Fish Shops	540
Fruit and Vegetable Shops	1,056
Other Shops	139
Markets	181
Cattle Wharves	254
Corporation Destructors	90
Dairies	90
Cowsheds	178

Common Lodging Houses.

These premises are under the control of the Police and regularly inspected by members of the force.

There is very little demand in the town for this kind of accommodation, and the owners complain of the very poor business they do.

Some of the houses, though old and dilapidated, are kept very clean.

At the end of the year there were seven premises, providing accommodation for 483 persons, registered as Common Lodging Houses; of these, five receive men only, one women only, and one men and women.

Average per night for the past twelve months, 108.

Offensive Trades.

The following offensive trades are carried on in the Borough :—

	1937	1938
Tripe Boilers... ..	7	7
Marine Stores	11	9
Gut Scraper	4	4
Grease Works	1	—
Fat Renderer... ..	—	1
Hide and Skin Depot	2	2
Chemical Works	—	1
TOTALS	25	25

Regular inspections are made of all premises on which offensive trades are established. In most instances reasonable precautions were being taken to prevent a nuisance, and in no case was it found necessary to institute legal proceedings.

The visits paid to these premises numbered 193, two notices were served in respect of defects.

Bakehouses.

The general standard of cleanliness in the bakehouses in the town is fairly satisfactory, but there are a number of bakehouses in which the structural requirements are not satisfactory. However, the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, which comes into operation on the 1st October, 1939, will enable the Department to deal with these premises.

During the year 4 new premises were registered as Bake-houses and 5 were discontinued.

The following is a summary of the work done:—

Number on Register, 1st January, 1938...	287
Number on Register, 31st December, 1938	286
Number of Inspections made	622
Number of Notices served	49
Number of Notices complied with ...	40

The following defects were found:—

Limewashing and Cleanliness	18
Defective Roof	2
Defective Drains	6
Other Defects	41

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

On the 1st July, 1938, the new Factories Act came into operation and placed a much greater administrative responsibility on the Department.

The Act consolidates the law relating to Factories and the many new provisions in the Act will have an important bearing on the health, safety and well-being of the industrial population. This will react also, as time goes on, for the benefit of industry generally.

1. INSPECTIONS.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power ...	72	23	...
FACTORIES without mechanical power ...	434	9	...
OTHER PREMISES under the act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out-workers' premises).	Nil	Nil	...
Total	506	32	...

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were Instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	2	2	...	...
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temptrre. (S. 3)	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) :				
Insufficient ...	17	15	...	...
Unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	...	...
Not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
Other Offences ...	9	7	...	...
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) ...				
Total ...	32	28	...	...

3. OUTWORKERS.

Three lists were received regarding two outworkers. The premises were found satisfactory.

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (S.131) at the end of June, 1938	Number
Blacksmiths	4
Cabinet Makers	4
Carriage Builders	1
Clog, Boot and Shoe Makers and Repairers	74
Coffin Makers	2
Cotton Waste Dealers	2
Cycle Makers and Motor Engineers ...	16
Dress Makers	22
Electricians	4
Firewood Manufacturer	1
French Polishers	1
Hosiery and Stocking Knitter	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	26
Joiners	9
Laundries	4
Liquid Soap Bottler	1
Mantle Makers	3
Milliners	10
Monumental Masons	3
Paint and Varnish Maker	0
Pattern Makers	2
Plasterer	1
Plumbers	11
Printers	3
Saddlers	3
Saw Cutters	2
Scale Makers	4
Skip Makers	4
Sugar Boiler	1
Tailors	15
Tile Fitters	2
Tinsmiths	6
Upholsterers	4
Watch Repairers	8
Wheelwrights	2
Sundry Trades	4
Total Number of Workshops on Register	250

5. OTHER MATTERS.

Class	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories— Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133), 1901 and Factories Act, 1937 (Sect. 28)	Nil
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Work- shop Act (S. 5), 1901 and Sec. 9, 1937 Act	Notified by H.M. Inspector. Reports (of action taken) sent to H. M. Inspector Nil
Other	Nil
Underground Bakehouses In use at the end of the year	14

Shops Act, 1934.

At the end of the year 813 tenanted shops were on the register. During the year 3,057 visits and inspections were made to premises on the register.

OCCUPIED SHOPS.

Sale of Wearing Apparel, including Drapers, Milliners, Furriers, Costumiers, Tailors, Hosiers, Hatters, Boot and Shoes	141
Sale of Provisions, including Grocers, Bakers, Butchers, Greengrocers, Fishmongers, Dairies	384
Sale of Refreshments, including Temperance Bars, Wine Merchants, Milk Bar	15
Sale of Furniture, including Ironmongers, Wallpaper Dealers, Electricians and Wireless, Glass and Hardware	75
Sale of Other Articles, including Hairdressers, Jewellers, Pawnbrokers, Chemists, Photographers, Coal Merchants, Cycle and Motor Accessories, etc.	113
Mixed Shops, including Tobacconists, Newsagents, Stationers	32
Departmental Stores... ..	5
	<hr/> 765
Unoccupied Shops	48
	<hr/>
Total Number of Shops on Register	813

The following notices were served in respect of non-compliance with the Act:—

To provide suitable and sufficient means of Ventilation	...	0
To provide means of maintaining a reasonable Temperature		0
To provide suitable and sufficient Sanitary Conveniences	...	4
To provide suitable and sufficient means of Lighting	... ..	0
To provide suitable and sufficient Washing Facilities	... ..	0
To provide suitable and sufficient facilities for the taking of Meals	... ..	0
To provide seats for Female Assistants	... ..	0
Failing to exhibit the prescribed Form re Assistants' Half-Holiday	... ..	0
Failing to exhibit the prescribed Forms under the Shops Act, 1934	... ..	9
Failing to keep records of the hours of Employment of Young Persons	... ..	0
Failing to comply with the Half-Holiday Closing Regulations		0

The following notices were served in respect of Sanitary Defects:—

Drains and Sanitary Conveniences unsuitable, defective, or foul	... ..	60
Premises dirty or with foul accumulations	... ..	17
Premises damp, roofs leaky, or waste pipes defective...	...	38
Premises without proper receptacles for trade refuse...	...	20
Other nuisances	... ..	13
Total Notices served under the Acts		161

During the year one person was prosecuted for offences under the Act, namely:—

- (i) For employing young persons for more than the maximum working hours; and also
- (ii) For failing to keep the prescribed records.

A fine of 5/- with costs was imposed.

Smoke Abatement.

During the year 663 smoke observations of 30 minutes duration were taken. The extent of the emission of black smoke was as follows:—

No black smoke	...	...	...	...	334
Under 1 minute	...	...	...	...	112
1 and under 2 minutes	...	...	...	...	120
2 and under 3 minutes	...	...	...	...	92
3 and under 4 minutes	...	...	...	...	4
Over 4 minutes	...	...	...	...	1

There are 21 mills in the Borough which have in use some form of smoke appliance. In addition to these, 4 mills are electrified and 14 partially electrified. In 65 mills and workshops with chimneys there are no appliances fixed.

The following table shows the number and type of smoke appliances in use in the Borough at the end of the year:—

Name of Appliances	No. of Mills	No. of Boilers
Auto-Coking Machines	1	3
Broadbent's Louvre Air Regulators	4	15
Caddy's Tubular Bars	3	9
Butterworth's Sectional Bars	—	—
Hamer's Patent Expansion Joints	1	4
Sanger & Webster's Patent Air Regulators	—	—
Babcock & Wilcox Patent	2	14
Mellor's Patent	3	7
Jack Patent Expansion Joint	1	4
Procter's Automatic Stokers	3	6
Meldrum Steam Jets	1	1
Parabola Tubes	2	6
Totals	21	69

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

During the year an inspection was made of all premises of Flock Manufacturers and Dealers within the Borough, together with the premises of Upholsterers where Rag Flocks are likely to be used.

One Bedding Manufacturer and one Upholsterer were found to have stocks of Rag Flocks. Samples in each case were obtained and submitted to the Public Analyst and both samples were found to conform with the above regulations.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

During the year the number of complaints received was 41; in the majority of these cases it was found that the rat infestation was due to defective drainage. The District Sanitary Inspectors visited and investigated all complaints and advice was given to the occupants of infested premises, where necessary Notices were served to remedy defective drainage systems and for the rat proofing of the premises.

During National Rat Week copies of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Advisory leaflets were distributed throughout the Borough and 200 posters were hung on the various hoardings and in the public buildings throughout the town.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The General Superintendent of Baths (Mr. T. Beattie) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

The Lowermoor, Hathershaw, Robin Hill, Glodwick and Hollinwood Baths are equipped with Filtration and Chlorination Plant, giving a three hours' turnover with continuous chemical treatment.

The Central and Waterhead Baths still lack a Chlorination Plant, and the water is chemically treated by hand daily as required.

The question of a new Central Baths is still in abeyance.

There are no Open Air Baths within the Borough, and no privately owned baths or pools.

Section V.

HOUSING.

General.

At the end of 1938 there were 40,588 dwelling houses in the Borough. These figures include 2,456 back-to-back and single type houses, 3 cellar dwellings, and 59 vans or sheds used for human habitation.

In respect of the 3 cellar dwellings, demolition orders have been made, and the occupants are awaiting the provision of rehousing accommodation.

Of the 59 caravan dwellings, 7 are included in a confirmed Clearance Order, and in respect of one a Demolition Order as an Individual Unfit House has been made. In addition, Clearance Orders were made during the year in respect of 26 vans, and these are awaiting the confirmation of the Ministry. In regard to the remaining 25 caravans, these will be reported upon at an early date for action under the Housing Act.

Slum Clearance.

During the year 15 Clearance Areas comprising 236 houses were officially represented. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on the 18th October by S. G. Bulstrode, Esq., A.R.I.B.A. The result of the inquiry had not been received at the end of the year.

The following insanitary houses were dealt with as individual houses:—

(a) Demolition Order (Section 11)	...	51
(b) Closing Order (Section 12)	... ..	1
(c) Undertaking accepted: Not to be used for human habitation (Section 11)	...	2

The original Slum Clearance Programme consisted of 889 houses. At the end of the year Clearance, Demolition and Closing Orders had been made in respect of 1,209 houses. These necessitated the displacement of 3,858 persons of whom 2,693 had been

rehoused at the end of 1938. There were at the end of the year 1,048 persons, representing 352 families, waiting to be rehoused. These latter figures include the houses in the 15 Clearance Areas represented during 1938 and which are awaiting confirmation by the Ministry.

The number of unfit houses which formed the original five-year programme will be considerably exceeded, as more detailed inspections have revealed a large number of insanitary areas and unfit houses, which can only be dealt with by demolition.

In addition, there are approximately 2,000 back-to-back and single type houses which require to be dealt with in the future.

Other Demolitions.

Seven houses were demolished or closed voluntarily in the course of general improvement schemes during the year. The following were the types of houses affected:—

Through ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Back-to-back	...	...	...	...	...	2

The following tables give details of the areas represented in the years 1934-8, and the progress made in rehousing and demolition of the properties.

Date of Representation	AREA		Type of Premises to be Demolished in the Area								No. of Families in the Area	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry	Date of Confirmation of Order	Property Excluded as Result of Inquiry	Houses Vacated	Persons Re-housed by Corporation up to Dec. 31st, 1938.	Houses Demolished to Dec. 31st, 1938
	No.	Name	Acreage	Houses	Single Houses	Single Room Dwellings	Through Houses	Combined Houses & Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises							
22/2/34	1	Beever Street No. 1	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	10	19/6/34	12/10/34	—	2	5	2
"	2	Beever Street No. 2	...	7	—	—	5	—	—	12	58	"	22/8/34	—	12	12	12
"	3	Beever Street No. 3	...	16	—	—	1	—	—	17	62	"	5/10/34	—	17	56	17
"	4	Bottomley Street	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	14	"	22/8/34	—	3	14	3
"	5	Bow Street	...	35	9	—	12	1	2	59	266	"	5/10/34	—	59	245	59
"	6	Brunswick Street	...	4	4	—	—	—	—	4	9	"	22/8/34	—	4	2	4
"	7	Cross Street No. 1	...	2	2	—	—	3	—	7	22	"	5/10/34	—	7	22	7
"	8	Cross Street No. 2	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	9	"	12/10/34	—	4	9	4
"	9	Cross Street No. 3	...	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	22	"	5/10/34	—	4	20	4
"	10	Cross Street No. 4	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	9	"	12/10/34	—	2	5	2
"	11	Darker Street	...	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	13	"	5/10/34	—	3	13	3
"	12	Duke Street	...	6	—	—	1	—	—	7	44	"	"	—	7	18	7
"	13	Fountain Street	...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8	37	"	22/8/34	—	8	37	8
"	14	Higher Moor	...	6	7	—	12	—	—	25	88	"	5/10/34	—	25	77	25
"	15	Hollins Road	...	—	4	—	11	—	—	15	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
"	16	King Street	...	2	7	—	—	—	—	9	29	19/6/34	5/10/34	—	9	29	9
"	17	Old Church Street	...	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	15	"	—	—	—	—	—
"	18	Peter Street	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	"	22/8/34	—	1	4	1
"	19	Roundthorn Road	...	—	—	—	9	—	—	9	45	"	5/10/34	—	9	40	9
"	20	Station Street	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
"	21	Back Thomas Street	...	2	—	—	2	—	—	4	17	19/6/34	5/10/34	—	4	17	4
"	22	Vineyard Fold	...	9	5	—	—	—	—	14	52	"	5/10/34	—	14	37	14
"	23	Vineyard Street No. 1	...	2	—	—	7	—	—	9	34	"	12/10/34	—	7	26	7
"	24	Vineyard Street No. 2	...	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	23	"	5/10/34	—	3	7	3
"	25	Woollacot Street	...	10	1	—	—	—	—	11	27	"	5/10/34	—	11	22	11
		25		108	50	—	73	4	2	237	972	—	—	22	215	1765	215

* 121 Persons (representing 45 families) were re-housed under their own arrangements, and did not accept the accommodation available.
 Action completed in respect of Areas Numbered 1—25.

Slum Clearance, 1935-36—Table II.

Date of Representation	AREA		Average	Type of Premises to be Demolished in the Area								No. of Families in the Area	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry	Date of Confirmation of Order	Property Excluded as Result of Inquiry	Houses Vacated	*Persons Re-housed by Corporation up to Dec. 31st, 1938	Houses Demolished to Dec. 31st, 1938
	No.	Name		Back-to-Back Houses	Single Houses	Single Room Dwellings	Through Houses	Combined Houses & Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises	Population of Area							
21/2/35	26	Ashton Road No. 1	...	4	—	—	1	—	—	5	21	3	23/7/35	13/11/35	—	5	21	5
"	27	Ashton Road No. 2	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	2	"	"	—	2	5	2
"	28	Bargap	...	—	5	—	—	—	—	5	12	5	"	"	—	5	9	5
"	29	Baron Street	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	14	2	"	23/10/35	—	2	14	2
"	30	Cannon Street	...	7	1	—	1	—	—	9	23	7	"	13/11/35	—	9	7	9
"	31	Cartwright Street	...	—	4	—	1	—	—	5	16	5	"	"	—	5	16	5
"	32	Cemetery Street	...	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	18	4	"	"	—	4	16	4
"	33	Cheetham Street	...	7	—	—	3	—	2	12	28	9	"	"	—	12	26	12
"	34	Emma Street	...	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	12	3	"	"	—	3	12	3
"	35	Fielding Street No. 1	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	11	4	"	"	—	4	11	4
"	36	Fielding Street No. 2	...	7	1	—	—	—	—	8	33	8	"	"	—	8	27	8
"	37	Garside Fold	...	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	18	5	"	"	—	4	12	4
"	38	Hollins Road No. 2...	...	1	—	—	3	—	—	4	11	5	"	"	—	4	6	4
"	39	Ironmonger Street	...	14	1	—	6	—	—	21	64	19	"	"	—	21	58	21
"	40	Lee Street No. 1	...	2	3	—	—	—	—	5	13	5	"	"	—	5	13	5
"	41	Lee Street No. 2	...	6	—	—	2	—	—	8	29	10	"	"	—	8	24	8
"	42	Lees Road No. 1	...	—	5	—	3	—	—	8	18	6	"	"	—	8	18	8
"	43	Littlemoor Lane	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	15	3	"	"	—	3	15	3
"	44	Longley Street	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	7	2	"	"	—	2	7	2
"	45	Lyon Dam No. 1	...	—	5	—	—	—	—	5	23	5	"	"	—	5	23	5
"	46	Lyon Dam No. 2	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	12	2	"	—	2 Through Houses	—	—	—
"	47	Mount Pleasant St. No. 1	...	15	1	—	2	—	—	18	66	19	"	13/11/35	—	18	56	18
"	48	Mount Pleasant St. No. 2	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	16	3	"	"	—	3	16	3
"	49	Roundthorn Rd. No. 2	...	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	13	4	"	23/10/35	—	3	10	3
"	50	Scott Street No. 1	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	11	3	"	"	—	3	11	3
"	51	Terrace Street	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	5	3	"	"	—	2	5	2
"	52	West Street No. 1	...	2	—	—	2	—	—	4	8	4	"	13/11/35	2 Back-to-Back Houses	2	3	2
"	53	West Street No. 2	...	—	—	—	4	1	—	5	24	5	"	"	—	5	21	5
"		28		80	35	—	41	1	2	159	546	158	—	—	4	155	462	155

*69 persons (representing 25 families) were re-housed under their own arrangements, and did not accept the accommodation available. Action completed in respect of Areas Numbered 26—53.

Slum Clearance, 1935-36—Table III.

Date of Representation	AREA		Acreage	Type of Premises to be Demolished in the Area								No. of Families in the Area	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry	Date of Confirmation of Order	Property Excluded as Result of Inquiry	Houses Vacated	*Persons Re-housed by Corporation up to Dec. 31st, 1938.	Houses Demolished to Dec. 31st, 1938
				Back-to-Back Houses	Single Houses	Single Room Dwellings	Thorough Houses	Combined Houses & Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises								
28/11/35	54	Brookside	...	...	11	34	11	16/6/36	11 / 9/36	—	11	28	11	11	4	12	4	11
"	55	Cash Gate	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	12	4	4
"	56	Dan Fold	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	2
"	57	Darby View	...	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	7	2	—	—	2	7	2	2
"	58	Factory Fold	...	...	2	4	—	11	1	19	76	18	..	..	16	49	16	16
"	59	Grosvenor Street	...	...	5	1	—	—	—	6	20	6	..	..	6	20	6	6
"	60	Horsedge Street	...	...	4	1	—	—	—	5	21	6	..	..	5	17	5	5
"	61	Lime View	...	...	—	2	—	8	—	10	40	10	..	..	10	31	10	10
"	62	Littletown	...	...	—	7	—	2	—	9	34	8	..	..	9	18	9	9
"	63	Manchester Road No. 1	...	...	4	2	—	1	—	7	23	7	..	..	7	19	7	7
"	64	Palmer Street	...	...	10	8	—	—	—	18	47	20	..	..	12	32	12	12
"	65	Priory Square	...	...	15	7	—	—	—	22	87	22	..	..	22	77	22	22
"	66	Renshaw Street	...	...	—	13	—	3	—	16	55	16	..	..	16	41	16	16
28/11/35	67	West Street No. 3	...	...	—	—	—	7	—	7	38	11	..	..	7	26	7	7
12/12/35	68	Shaw Road No. 1	...	...	—	2	—	—	—	2	7	2	..	..	2	2	2	2
		15			51	52	—	35	1	1	140	505	—	—	131	383	131	131

*111 persons (representing 32 families) were re-housed under their own arrangements, and did not accept the accommodation available
Action completed in respect of Areas Numbered 54—68.

Slum Clearance, 1937—Table IV.

Date of Representation	AREA		Acreage	Type of Premises to be Demolished in the Area								No. of Families in the Area	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry	Date of Confirmation of Order	Property Excluded as Result of Inquiry	Houses Vacated	**Persons Re-housed by Corporation up to Dec. 31st, 1938.	Houses Demolished to Dec. 31st, 1938
	No.	Name		Back-to-Back Houses	Single Houses	Single Room Dwellings	Through Houses	Combined Houses & Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises	Population of Area							
25/2/37	69	Back Hargreaves Street	...	29	—	—	6	1	—	36	116	36	15/9/37	30/4/38	—	4	23	—
"	70	Busk Road	...	3	—	—	4	1	—	8	28	8	"	"	—	2	7	—
"	71	Castlemill Street	...	16	—	—	3	—	—	19	58	23	"	"	1 Through House	—	—	1
"	72	Cheapside	...	—	—	—	5	—	—	5	6	2	"	"	—	4	3	—
"	73	Clarendon Street	...	9	2	4	14	2	—	31	96	27	"	"	—	12	47	—
"	74	Crompton Street	...	2	—	—	2	—	—	4	8	3	"	"	1 Back-to-Back House.	—	—	—
"	75	Egerton Street	...	9	—	1	1	3	—	14	45†	7	"	"	—	5	10	—
"	76	Greenacres Road	...	—	3	—	1	—	—	4	13	4	"	"	—	3	10	—
"	77	Henshaw Street No. 1	...	—	—	2*	1	2	—	5	12	5	"	"	1 Caravan††	—	—	1
"	78	Hunters Lane	...	10	—	—	2	2	—	14	13	4	"	"	1 Back-to-Back House.	9	—	—
"	79	Kirkbank Street	...	6	8	—	15	2	—	31	81	31	"	"	—	9	26	—
"	80	Lime Gate No. 1	...	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	10	3	"	"	—	2	7	—
"	81	Lime Gate No. 2	...	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	9	3	"	"	—	1	4	—
"	82	Lord Street No. 1	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	9	4	"	"	—	1	3	—
"	83	Perth Street	...	6	3	—	12	—	—	21	92	21	"	"	—	11	50	—
"	84	Rochdale Road	...	—	3	—	—	1	—	4	8	2	"	"	—	3	6	—
"	85	Sarah Moor No. 1	...	2	3	—	—	—	—	5	15	5	"	"	—	1	4	—
"	86	Sarah Moor No. 2	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	5	2	"	"	—	—	—	—
"	87	Shaw Road, No. 2	...	—	—	—	7	—	—	7	20	6	"	"	—	3	10	—
"	88	Spencer Street	...	36	9	—	3	2	—	50	166	49	"	"	1 House & Shop	15	62	2
"	89	Whiteley Street	...	4	—	14*	4	—	—	22	52	19	"	"	3 Caravans††	1	6	4
"	90	Wilds Court	...	2	1	—	5	—	—	8	36	9	"	"	—	1	10	—
		22		140	32	21	91	16	—	300	898	273	—	—	8	87	288	8

*Caravan dwellings. †Includes 19 men lodgers in Common Lodging-house. ††Caravans demolished prior to inquiry.

**187 Persons (representing 67 families) were re-housed under their own arrangements, and did not accept the accommodation available.

Slum Clearance, 1938—Table V.

Date of Representation	AREA		Acres	Type of Premises to be Demolished in the Area						Population of Area	No. of Families in the Area	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry	Date of Confirmation of Order	Property Excluded as Result of Inquiry	Houses Vacated	*Persons Re-housed by Corporation up to Dec. 31st, 1938.	Houses Demolished to Dec. 31st, 1938
	No.	Name		Back-to-Back Houses	Single Houses	Single Room Dwellings	Through Houses	Combined Houses & Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises							
20 / 1 / 38	91	Ashworth Street135	—	—	—	7	—	—	7	17	18/10/38	Result of Inquiry not received at 31/12/1938.				
"	92	Broadbent Road No. 1	.115	—	7*	—	—	—	—	7	11	"					
"	93	Broadbent Road No. 2	.461	—	19*	—	—	—	—	19	20	"					
"	94	Brunswick Street No. 2	.130	8	—	8	—	—	—	16	13	"					
"	95	Chadderton Road, No. 1	.160	11	—	1	2	—	—	14	36	"					
"	96	Cowhill View ...	.213	2	7	—	3	—	—	12	28	"				
"	97	Darker Street No. 2	.092	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	13	"					
"	98	Fountain Street No. 2	.113	—	1	—	4	—	—	5	16	"					
"	99	Huddersfield Road ...	.748	13	6	1	7	6	—	33	100	"				
"	100	Lees Road No. 2	.146	8	—	2	—	—	—	10	25	"					
"	101	Moorhey Street ...	.082	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	14	"				
"	102	Morton Street ...	.392	11	21	—	2	—	—	34	82	"				
"	103	Ripponden Road ...	.686	14	10	12	6	—	—	42	93	"				
"	104	Taylor Street No. 1	.073	3	—	—	1	—	—	4	16	"					
"	105	Wellfold ...	.516	6	4	—	13	—	—	23	73	"				
		15	—	82	75	24	49	6	—	236	557						

* Caravan Dwellings.

The following Table summarises the progress of Slum Clearance up to 31st December, 1938 :—
CLEARANCE AREAS.

Year	Represented			Confirmed			Houses Vacated.						Persons Displaced					Houses Demolished						
	Areas	Houses	Persons	Areas	Houses	Persons	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	Total	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	Total	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	Total
1934	25	237	972	22	215	886	33	90	92	—	—	215	187	342	357	—	—	886	—	10	180	25	—	215
1935	28	159	546	27	155	531	—	1	136	18	—	155	—	7	433	91	—	531	—	—	62	82	11	155
1936	15	140	505	15	131	494	—	—	13	118	—	131	—	—	66	428	—	494	—	—	—	104	27	131
1937	22	300	898	22	292	893	—	—	—	—	150	150	—	—	—	—	475	475	—	—	—	—	8	8
1938	15	236	557	Result of Inquiry not received at 31/12/38			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	105	1072	3478	86	793	2804	33	91	241	136	150	651	187	349	856	519	475	2386	—	10	242	211	46	509

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES (SECTION II.)

Year	DEMOLITION ORDER															Undertaking accepted not to use for Human Habitation														
	No. of H'ses	Houses Vacated.					Persons Displaced					Houses Demolished					No. of H'ses	Houses Vacated					Persons Displaced							
		1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	Total	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	Total	1934	1935	1936		1937	1938	Total	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	Total				
1934	3	1	1	—	—	3	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4			
1935	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18			
1936	5	—	4	1	—	5	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12			
1937	8	—	—	6	2	8	—	—	33	21	12	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7			
1938	51	—	—	—	24	24	—	—	69	—	69	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2			
Totals	68	1	1	6	7	26	4	2	18	23	81	2	—	2	7	14	23	10	1	5	2	2	10	7	27	7	43			

PARTS OF BUILDINGS (SEPARATE TENEMENTS OR UNDERGROUND ROOMS) CLOSING ORDERS (SECTION 12).

Year	No. of H'ses	Houses Vacated					Persons Displaced				
		1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
1934	54	6	17	27	4	—	28	43	61	4	—
1937	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1938	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	59	6	17	27	8	1	59	43	61	4	—

Overcrowding.

The Overcrowding Survey undertaken in the early months of 1936 showed that out of 36,420 houses surveyed, 1,519 were found to be overcrowded, 3 of which were on the sex basis.

These overcrowded houses have been visited at intervals, at the beginning of 1937 1,616 were overcrowded and at the beginning of 1938 705 were overcrowded. During the year these houses were visited, and it was found that 335 had been de-crowded, 62 of these had been re-housed by the Corporation and 542 still remained overcrowded. 57 of these 542 families are in Corporation houses. These figures are certainly instructive and it is striking that so many houses have been de-crowded by the simple method of the transfer of families and one or more relatives. Details are shown on the table on page 84.

The number of Corporation houses that were overcrowded at the commencement of the year was 84. During the year 27 families were de-crowded, leaving at the end of the year 57.

One factor must not be overlooked, and that is that there are a number of families which at the time of the survey were not overcrowded, but may be so now by one or more of the children reaching the age of one or ten years.

The Slum Clearance programme includes a number of houses that are overcrowded, and the provision of houses for slum clearance will in many cases mean at the same time provision of houses for overcrowded families.

Overcrowded Houses, 1938.
Table showing Causes of De-crowding.

Ward	Total Number of Visits	Total Number of Houses			Causes of De-crowding						
		Visited	De-crowded	Still Over-crowded	Removal of Whole Family	Removal of Members of Family	Removal of Lodgers	Under Slum Clearance Programme	Additional Rooms	Additional Fireplace	House made through
Mumps	208	198	35	35	25	4	—	5	1	—	—
St. Mary's	309	306	39	65	27	4	1	6	1	—	—
Coldhurst	219	215	25	37	7	15	—	3	—	—	—
Westwood	286	275	32	51	24	7	1	—	—	—	—
Hartford	257	247	32	59	16	14	—	—	1	1	—
Werneth	111	108	7	17	2	4	—	1	—	—	—
Hollinwood.....	237	237	22	40	10	12	—	—	—	—	—
St. Paul's	212	209	25	43	14	7	3	1	—	—	—
St. Peter's ...	128	116	19	14	13	5	—	1	—	—	—
Clarksfield ...	289	289	33	62	19	11	1	2	—	—	—
Waterhead	364	357	35	82	25	8	2	—	—	—	—
St. James's ...	215	206	31	37	18	12	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	2,835	**2,763	335	542	*200	103	8	20	3	1	—

*62 of these families have been moved into Council Houses.

**1886 of these houses are "border line" cases.

Housing Statistics.

Number of New Houses erected during the year 1938:—

(a) Total Number (including (b))	...	...	...	...	226
1. By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	76
2. By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	150
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts—					
1. By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	76
2. By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	Nil

The following information is given in the form required by the Ministry of Health:—

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	6,873
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...						13,291
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...						Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	290
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	620

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	335
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(A) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 & 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936:—						
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	...	198

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	152
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	2
(B) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	87
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	63
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	2
(C) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 & 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	51
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	8
(D) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936:—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936; Part IV—Overcrowding:—

(A) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end year	542
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	553
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	3,226
(B) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	14
Number of new cases dealt with	7
(C) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	335
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases...	1,879
(D) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The undermentioned table shows the number of houses which have been found to be infested and the number disinfested:

	Council Houses	Other Houses
Infested Houses on books, 1st January, 1938...	4	Nil
Number found infested during year	132	144
Number disinfested by H.C.N.	136	17
Number disinfested by spraying with liquid insecticide	13	202
Number on books, 31st December, 1938 ...	Nil	Nil

Under the slum clearance programme, 17 houses were disinfested by H.C.N. and 2 by spraying before demolition.

Blocks of houses found to be verminous and belonging to the Corporation are subject to Hydrogen Cyanide Gas. An arrangement exists whereby the tenants of such houses are bathed at the Health Yard, and housed for a night at a Corporation establishment until the houses are declared free from gas.

Infested houses, other than Corporation property, are subjected to spraying with Zaldicide, a liquid insecticide, at the tenant's or owner's request.

Tenants of privately owned houses certified verminous and taking up the tenancy of a Council House, are bathed at the Health Yard, their personal clothing and bedding steam-disinfected, and their furniture and other belongings removed in a special van. The furniture in the van is disinfected by Hydrogen Cyanide Gas before being placed in the Corporation house.

The work of disinfestation by Hydrogen Cyanide Gas is undertaken by a contractor.

Disinfestation by spraying and the bathings and steam disinfection of bedding is under the control of the Public Health Department.

Section VI.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

Agriculture Act, 1937.

On the 1st April, 1938, the Agriculture Act came into operation and provided for the establishment of centralised State Veterinary Services. This relieved the Local Authority of the administration of certain duties under the Diseases of Animals Acts, particularly with regard to the veterinary inspection of cattle and also with regard to the Tuberculosis Order of 1938.

Below is appended a summary of the alterations in administration.

Powers and duties retained by Local Authorities.

Local authorities still retain important powers and duties (of a non-veterinary character) under the Diseases of Animals Acts, amongst which are the following:—

- (a) the promulgation of the Minister's Orders;
- (b) the power to make certain local regulations; for example, internal regulations concerning the dipping of sheep;
- (c) the issue of special authority for the holding of livestock markets in declared infected areas, or for the exposure of imported animals;
- (d) the appointment of inspectors (other than veterinary) under Section 35 (1) of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894 for the execution and enforcement of the Acts and Orders of the Minister; the inspectors so appointed are required:—
 - (i) to serve and enforce notices defining Infected Places and requiring detention and isolation of animals or the dipping of sheep in certain cases;
 - (ii) to supervise the cleansing and disinfection of infected premises in certain cases;

- (iii) to arrange for the disposal of the carcasses of diseased or suspected animals other than those of animals slaughtered by the Ministry or required for diagnostic purposes ;
- (iv) to issue licences for the movement of animals in infected, controlled or scheduled areas under conditions prescribed in the Minister's Orders ;
- (e) the local enforcement of all general Orders of the Minister including the Orders made for the prevention of the spread of disease and for the protection of animals from unnecessary suffering during transit ; providing for :—
 - (i) the control of the movement of imported animals ;
 - (ii) the paving, cleansing and disinfection of livestock markets and lairs ;
 - (iii) the cleansing and disinfection of railway and road vehicles, and special facilities for the cleansing of vehicles at markets ;
 - (iv) the boiling of specified animal foodstuffs, the destruction of hay and straw packing material, and the disposal of meat wrappers ;
 - (v) the regulation of the fittings of ships engaged in the carriage of livestock and of the construction of railway and road vehicles used for animals and the control of the methods of conveyance ;
 - (vi) records of movements of stock.

Further, the statutory obligation placed upon the police by Section 43 of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, to execute and enforce the Act and every Order of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries thereunder, remains in full operation, and independently of their duties as inspectors where so appointed, the police are required to receive from stockowners notices of suspected cases of all notifiable diseases, and to communicate them to the proper authority as specified in the relative Orders.

For all these administrative purposes the co-operation of local authorities and their officers and of the police with the Ministry and its officers is indispensable.

Local authorities also retain all their functions under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders and under any other enactments relating to milk, except only in relation to the veterinary inspection and tuberculin testing of animals ; and their functions in relation to meat inspection are likewise unaffected by the new arrangements under the Agriculture Act, 1937.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year 65 samples of mixed and unmixed milk have been collected from farms within and without the Borough, and submitted to bacteriological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli.

Of these, 43 samples were from farms within the Borough, 4 containing tubercle bacilli. Of the remainder, which were taken from milk produced outside the Borough but retailed within the Borough, 1 contained tubercle bacilli.

Under the new procedure, when a positive result is obtained the Ministry of Agriculture Divisional Inspector is informed at Preston, he then takes steps to have the herd at the farm examined by a Veterinary Inspector and deals with the affected animals under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. He informs the Department of any action taken.

The following milks were examined:—

			Number examined		Number positive
Tuberculin Tested	...		2	...	Nil
Accredited	...	...	10	...	1
Pasteurised	...	...	1	...	Nil
Non-designated	...	...	52	...	4

Milk Purveyors.

The following figures have been compiled from the register:—

Number of milk shops on register on 1st January, 1938	...	385
" " discontinued during the year	...	23
" " registered during the year	...	16
" " on register on 31st December, 1938	...	378
Number of visits to milk shops	...	601
Number of notices served	...	7

At the end of the year there were 29 Oldham farmers on the register and 158 farmers and dairymen who resided outside the Borough.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 29 farms in the Borough for the housing of milch cows. These farms, comprising 66 cowsheds, house approximately 470 cows.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923 and 1936.

The following Licences were issued during the year:—

- 2 Supplementary Licences to sell milk as "Tuberculin Tested"
- 3 Licences to produce and sell milk as "Accredited"
- 6 Supplementary Licences to sell milk as "Accredited"
- 1 Supplementary Licence to sell milk as "Pasteurised"
- 1 Licence in respect of Pasteurising Establishments.

Table showing Number of Samples of Milk obtained from Various Districts, and the Percentage found to be Tuberculous for the Years 1934 to 1938.

	Year 1934			Year 1935			Year 1936			Year 1937			Year 1938		
	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive	Total number of samples examined	Number Positive	Percentage Positive
Oldham	36	...	...	32	...	...	40	2	5.00	76	5	6.57	43	4	9.30
Lancashire	9	1	11.11	27	5	18.52	21	2	9.52	9	...	...	7	1	14.28
Yorkshire (W.R.)	8	...	...	2	...	...	7	1	14.28	5	1	20.00	11	...	...
Cheshire	9	1	11.11	9	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Westmorland .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Derbyshire	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Mixed	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pasteurised.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Special .....	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for Year ...	71	2	2.81	72	5	6.94	75	5	6.66	91	6	6.59	65	5	7.69

During the year 35 samples of designated milk were submitted for examination, with the following results:—

Special Designation.	Bacterial Count & B. Coli			Methylene Blue Reduction Test & B. Coli.		
	No. of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Not Satisfactory.	No. of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Not Satisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested ...	—	—	—	2	2	—
Accredited ...	—	—	—	27	21	6
Pasteurised ...	6	6	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	6	6	—	29	23	6

In two Accredited Milk samples B. Coli was found in 1/100 ml. in each of two tubes and in four Accredited Milk samples B. Coli was found in 1/100 ml. in each of three tubes.

Meat Inspection.

There is no Public Abattoir in the town. All slaughtering is done in private slaughterhouses, which number 32, and all are licensed. The majority of the large authorities possess a Public Abattoir, and such an establishment would be an asset to the town.

The following table shows details of carcasses inspected and condemned:—

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	(7976) (including Cows)		263	37553	6695
Number Inspected ...	2880	3467	104	17530	6695
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole Carcasses con- demned	1	11	1	7	12
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	57	209	—	25	198
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	2.00	6.34	.961	.182	3.13
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole Carcasses Con- demned	4	33	—	—	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	72	564	—	—	314
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	2.63	17.21	—	—	4.84

The total weight of meat and offal destroyed was:— For tuberculosis, 60,978 lbs.; for diseases other than tuberculosis, 14,490 lbs.

The following is a summary of the Diseased and Unsound Food destroyed during the year:—

Article	Weight in lbs.	Remarks
Cattle	25357	49 whole carcasses
Sheep	231	7 " "
Pigs	2471	20 " "
Calves	20	1 " "
Parts of Carcasses and Offal	47389	1439 Cattle, sheep & pigs
Fruit and Vegetables	2460	
Preserved Foods ...	4	
Chickens & Ducklings	38	17 Birds
Eggs	—	
Rabbits	—	
Fish	18	
TOTALS	77988 lbs.	

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

This Act provides that no animal shall be slaughtered in a slaughterhouse or knacker's yard by any person who is not the holder of a licence granted by the Local Authority. During the year 15 licences and renewal licences have been granted by the Department.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

The administration of this Act is carried out by the Public Health Department. The total number of samples analysed during 1938 was 398, representing an increase of 95 samples on the previous year.

The following table summarises the working of the Act during the year :—

Number of Samples purchased for Analysis under the Food and Drugs Act.

Name or Description of Article examined	Number of Samples of each Article examined			Number of Samples of each Article regarded as Adulterated, below standard, or otherwise not complying with prescribed requirements		
	Formally taken	Informally taken	Total	Formally taken	Informally taken	Total
Milk	330	2	332	10	...	10
Whisky	13	...	13	1	...	1
Rum	9	...	9	...	...	...
Tincture of Iodine ... ..	...	4	4	...	...	...
Lard	5	1	6	...	...	...
Malt Vinegar ... ..	...	4	4	...	...	...
Bitter Beer	1	...	1	...	...	...
Butter ... ..	...	4	4	...	...	...
Margarine ... ..	...	4	4	...	...	...
Cheese ... ..	...	2	2	...	...	...
Sugar... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Tea ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Cream ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Sausage	4	1	5	3	1	4
Linseed Meal ... ..	...	3	3	...	...	...
Coffee ... ..	...	2	2	...	...	...
Condensed Milk ... ..	...	2	2	...	...	...
Chocolates ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Rice ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Jam ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Cream (Tinned) ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	362	36	398	14	1	15

During the year there were 10 samples of milk which did not conform with the requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901.

Results of action taken with regard to samples Not Genuine.

Sample No.	Article	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken
9	Milk	15% Deficient in fat	Fined 20/- and 10/6 Costs.
37	Milk	16% do.	Fined 20/- and 10/6 Costs.
53	Milk	6% do.	No action taken
79	Milk	19% Extraneous water	Fined 10/- and 10/6 Costs.
192	Milk	5.8% do.	Fined 20/- and 10/6 Costs.
201	Milk	11% Deficient in fat and 3.6 non fatty solids.	Abnormal sample. No action.
212	Milk	11.7% Extraneous	Fined £5 and 10/6 Costs.
334	Milk	4% do. water	Fined 10/- and 10/6 Costs.
336	Milk	4.7% do.	Fined 20/- and 10/6 Costs.
362	Whiskey	2% do.	Letter of warning.

Artificial Cream Act, 1929.

No action has been necessary under the Act.

Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.

No conditions were observed which suggested the necessity of taking action under these Regulations.

Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.

Two samples of condensed milk were submitted to the Public Analyst and found to conform in all respects with the Regulations and the statements on the label.

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 and 1927.

Four samples of sausages contained preservative, which was not declared at the time of sale. The vendors were warned.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

Samples obtained for chemical analysis are sent to the laboratory of the Public Analyst.

Milk samples taken for bacterial count and examination for tubercle bacilli are sent to the University of Manchester, Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, 3. Here also are sent any other foods which require bacterial examination.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

During the year 4 samples taken under the provisions of this Act were submitted to the Agricultural Analyst to this Borough.

One of the samples was reported upon as not conforming to requirements. After consultation with the Inspector to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries no further action was taken.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.

Under this Act, Orders are made in Council for the compulsory marking of certain imported foodstuffs. Regular inspections of various premises in the Borough have been made during the year, with a view to seeing that the requirements of the above Act and various Orders are complied with.

Nutrition.

Talks on nutrition and diet were given by members of the department to various local audiences during the year. Pamphlets of instruction on the subject were also distributed during the year at the various Welfares and Clinics.

The only actual figures available as a measure of the local state of nutrition are those relating to school children. In this connection tables are given in the School Medical Report.

Section VII.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

On pages 107 and 108 will be found the numbers, age groups, ward distribution, and seasonal prevalence during 1938 of the notifiable infectious diseases.

The following table shows the Attack Rate and Death Date:—

DISEASE	Attack Rate per 1,000 of the population		Death Rate per 1,000 of the population		Death Rate per 1,000 Cases
	England & Wales	Oldham	England & Wales	Oldham	
Small Pox... ..	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Diphtheria	1·58	1·86	0·07	0·10	51
Erysipelas... ..	0·40	0·40	0·00	0·00	0·00
Scarlet Fever	2·41	2·05	0·01	0·02	7·7
Enteric Fever	0·03	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Puerperal Pyrexia	* 14·42	* 16·69	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	1·55	—	0·25	164
Measles	—	—	0·04	0·63	—
Whooping Cough...	—	—	0·03	0·08	—
Influenza	—	—	0·11	0·15	—

*Rates per 1,000 total Births (*i.e.*, Live and Still).

Small-pox.

No cases were notified during the year and no deaths were registered as due to this disease. The department was requested by medical practitioners to see two cases that were suspected, both were genuine cases of Chicken-pox.

Vaccination.

During the year 1938 the Vaccination Officer issued 886 Q Notices requesting parents' compliance with the Acts and 31 K Forms to defaulters. He also paid 164 home visits and notified the Public Vaccinators on H Forms of 268 cases requiring Vaccination.

The following table gives details of the work of the Public Vaccinators during the year :—

District	No. of Successful Primary Vaccinations of Persons			No. of Successful Re-Vaccinations
	Under 1 year of age	One year and upwards	Total	
1	25	1	26	—
2	40	—	40	—
3	15	1	16	3
4	25	—	25	—
5	20	2	22	2
6	45	2	47	1
TOTALS	170	6	176	6

No vaccinations or re-vaccinations were performed under the Public Health (Small-pox Protection) Regulations, 1917, by the Medical Officers of the department.

Table showing the Ultimate Vaccinal State of Infants at the end of the year following that in which these Births were Registered.

Year	Total Births Registered	Successfully Vaccinated	Percentage of Successful vaccinations to births Registered	Insusceptible	Had Small-pox	Exempted by Statutory Declaration	Died Unvaccinated under 1 year of age	Postponed by Medical Certificate	Not Found	Transferred	Not Completed
1931	2021	175	8·6	0	0	1615	150	35	27	10	9
1932	1983	187	9·4	4	0	1585	121	25	3	20	38
1933	1901	203	10·6	1	0	1499	109	12	23	40	14
1934	2000	205	10·2	1	0	1603	100	10	41	25	15
1935	1975	180	9·1	1	0	1628	86	14	30	23	13
1936	1991	223	11·2	1	0	1540	116	38	31	32	10
1937	2084	245	11·75	0	0	1578	123	29	44	47	18

Diphtheria.

During the year there were 234 cases notified in the Borough, as compared with 275 in 1937. Of these 234 cases, 216 were removed to hospital and 12 died.

Many of the cases were severe in type, death occurring after a short period in hospital and in spite of large doses of antitoxin. At no period did the incidence fall to any great extent, nor was there any prolonged peak period. In these respects the Borough appears to have been more fortunate than some of its neighbouring authorities.

Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied free to general practitioners for prophylactic and treatment purposes. It can be obtained at the Public Health Office during the day and at the Central Police Station, Town Hall, at other times. Ninety-one phials of 8,000 units were issued for these purposes.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria was continued as in previous years, but in order that immunisation of the school population should be accelerated and made available to all Oldham children the Health Committee approved a special recommendation that temporary staff—a full-time Medical Officer and a junior clerk—should be engaged for this purpose.

The campaign commenced in March, and during March and April all schools were visited.

The services of the temporary Medical Officer were dispensed with in May, but the clerk was retained, and casual medical help was obtained for the immunisation of further groups of children. This arrangement has continued throughout the year, and in this way several hundred children have been immunised at a very low cost to the ratepayers.

The material used was A.P.T. for children up to 8 years of age, two doses of .2 c.c. being given at fortnightly intervals, and Formal Toxoid in doses of .2 c.c., .5 c.c. and 1 c.c. was given at the same interval to elder children.

During the year 3,988 children of school age were immunised, 3,659 at Elementary Schools, 145 at the High School, 60 at the Special Schools, 55 at Westhulme Hospital, and 69 at the Child Welfare Centre.

In addition to these, 147 other children were immunised, of which number 136 were under and 11 were over school age.

One hundred and sixty-four doses of T.A.F. were issued free to private practitioners.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases notified during 1938 was 259, as compared with 214 in 1937. Of these 259 cases, 170 were removed to hospital and 2 died.

Erysipelas.

Fifty-one cases were notified during the year, as compared with 38 in 1937. Of these 51 cases, 12 were removed to hospital and one died. 27 of the cases occurred in persons forty-five years of age and over.

Enteric Fever.

No cases were notified and no deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

During the year 7 cases were notified, and 4 deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases were notified during the year and no deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

One case was notified during the year, and 5 deaths were registered as due to this disease. These were old cases which had been notified in previous years.

Pneumonia (Acute Primary and Influenzal).

There were 195 cases of acute primary pneumonia and 16 cases of acute influenzal pneumonia notified during the year.

The deaths registered in 1938 from all forms of pneumonia numbered 92.

Influenza.

During the year 19 deaths were attributed to this disease, compared with 65 in the preceding year.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases are not notified locally. During the year there were 8 deaths from measles and 1 death from whooping cough. Many of these cases should be nursed in hospital, and as a consequence the incidence of complications and resultant ill health would be reduced.

There was a marked prevalence of measles during the year.

Other Diseases.

No cases of anthrax, epidemic jaundice, undulant fever, or psittacosis were brought to the notice of the Health Department during the year.

Westhulme Hospital.

During the year 806 patients were treated, as compared with 759 in 1937. 104 were under treatment on 1st January, 1938, and 702 were admitted during the year under review.

The accommodation was, at times, severely taxed, and the absence of modern isolation accommodation proved a handicap.

No major improvements or extensions were effected, as the future of the Hospital was still undetermined.

The admissions were made up as follows:—

	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Cerebro Sp. Fever	Tuberculosis	Other Diseases	Totals
Oldham	213	169	1	79	32	494
Chadderton ...	21	32	—	—	—	53
Royton	13	11	—	—	—	24
Crompton & Shaw	5	8	—	—	—	13
Ashton-under-Lyne	32	—	—	—	—	32
Limehurst	13	—	—	—	—	13
Failsworth	23	31	—	—	—	54
Saddleworth ...	3	3	—	—	—	6
Lees	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other Authorities ...	5	1	—	—	6	12
Totals	329	255	1	79	38	702

Disinfection.

The rooms of houses in which infectious diseases have occurred are disinfected by means of the formaldehyde spray or sulphur fumigation. Clothing, bedding, etc., are, where necessary, removed to the Disinfecting and Cleansing Station for steam disinfection.

There is a steam disinfector, two removal vans and baths at the Disinfecting and Cleansing Station. There is also a disinfecting plant at Westhulme Hospital and one at the Westwood Park Institution.

Owing to the additional disinfection of clothing and bedding from the Municipal Hospital and the Maternity Home, and the disinfection of houses and bedding in connection with slum clearance, the work at the central depot has increased considerably, and has at times entailed a great deal of overtime on the part of the disinfectors.

The following table shows the number of articles disinfected or destroyed by the staff of the Disinfecting Station:—

Articles	Disinfected		Destroyed	
	1937	1938	1937	1938
Blankets	4,347	2,910	23	12
Sheets	5,034	3,114	29	8
Pillows	4,787	6,225	199	93
Bolsters	1,907	1,473	27	14
Quilts	2,122	1,692	15	3
Mattresses	44	15	24	56
Beds	3,291	3,308	186	143
Carpets	712	511	—	2
Rugs	1,049	776	—	1
Curtains	3,661	2,793	—	—
Clothes	21,401	29,781	213	51
Sundry Articles ...	17,963	16,912	498	219
TOTALS	66,318	69,510	1,214	602

1937—Total Houses Disinfected 904

Total Rooms Disinfected 3,864

1938—Total Houses Disinfected 940

Total Rooms Disinfected 2,954

Cancer.

The number of deaths attributed to cancer shows an increase of 11 compared with 1937.

The figures for the previous five years are as follows :—

1933	...	...	...	...	207
1934	...	...	...	...	215
1935	...	...	...	...	247
1936	...	...	...	...	252
1937	...	...	...	...	232
1938	...	...	...	...	243

The following is an analysis of the age and sex distribution of all persons who were certified as dying from cancer during the year :—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
0-15	—	—	—
15-25	3	—	3
25-35	1	1	2
35-45	8	13	21
45-55	18	12	30
55-65	33	30	63
65-75	46	31	77
75-	22	25	47

Localisation of the Disease.

Buccal Cavity	...	{	Pharynx	...	...	4
			Palate	...	...	2
			Mouth	...	...	1
			Lip	...	...	1
			Tongue	...	...	4
			Jaw	...	...	1
			Tonsil	...	...	1
Digestive Tract	...	{	Oesophagus	...	...	10
			Stomach	...	...	53
			Rectum	...	...	29
			Liver and Biliary			
			Passages	...	...	10
			Pancreas	...	...	6
			Peritoneum	...	...	1
Respiratory Organs	...	{	Other Organs	...	...	33
			Larynx	...	...	5
			Lung	...	...	7
			Other...	...	...	10

Male Genito-Urinary...	{	Bladder	...	...	5
		Prostate	...	...	9
		Scrotum	...	...	—
		Penis	...	...	1
		Kidney	...	...	1
Female Genital Organs	{	Uterus	...	...	15
		Ovary	...	...	4
		Vulva	...	...	—
		Testes	...	...	...
Breast		...	...	...	20
Skin		...	...	...	6
Other and Unspecified		...	...	...	4

The following facilities are available for the diagnosis and treatment:—

At The Municipal Hospital:

Cases of Malignant Disease (excluding practically all types of intra-abdominal malignancy) are referred to the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, to obtain advice as to whether therapy would be worth while.

Cases suitable for treatment are subsequently admitted to the Christie Hospital.

Ambulant cases for follow-up visits are seen by the Visiting Therapist at the Oldham Royal Infirmary, and not in Manchester.

Cases which have already been treated at the Institute, and are subsequently admitted to The Municipal Hospital, are, when possible, seen at the Oldham Radium Clinic for follow-up examination, but the Institute Visiting Therapist visits in The Municipal Hospital, following the Oldham Clinic, all follow-up cases which cannot be moved.

Financial agreements have been made between the Health Committee and the Oldham Royal Infirmary for the attendance of patients at the Infirmary follow-up Clinic.

X-Ray facilities exist for diagnosis at the Hospital.

At the Oldham Royal Infirmary:

- (1) Facilities exist for X-ray diagnosis and treatment;
- (2) There is co-operation with the Manchester and District Radium Institute, and the Director of the Radium Institute or his duly qualified assistant attend at the special clinic held in the Out-patient Department at the Royal Infirmary on the second and fourth Wednesday mornings in each month.

Patients found at this examination to be suitable for treatment are treated as follows:—

- a. If requiring treatment by radium only, they are admitted to the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute;
- b. If the treatment requires collaboration between the Surgeon and the Radium Therapist, the cases are admitted to this Infirmary and treated at some time convenient to both parties.

The treatment in every case, whether at the Radium Institute or at the Infirmary, is administered and/or supervised by the Director of the Radium Institute or his duly qualified assistant.

Ambulant cases which have been treated either in the Radium Institute, this Infirmary or The Municipal Hospital, are re-examined at suitable intervals in the Infirmary at the above-mentioned clinics for "follow-up" purposes.

Under this scheme, radium is forwarded by the Radium Institute to the Infirmary free of charge, up to an average of 200 milligrams per month.

The Infirmary is responsible for the conveyance of patients requiring treatment from the Infirmary to the Radium Institute.

Borough Coroner's Report for the Year.

The following report has been supplied by Mr. J. L. Watson, the Borough Coroner:—

The deaths reported to the Coroner during the year 1938 were 295 (males 185, females 110).

Of this total 40 were lunatics and mental defectives in Institutions.

In 114 of the cases reported the deaths were investigated by the Coroner but no inquests held.

There were 181 inquests held (116 on males and 65 on females).

Of the 181 inquests 63 were held with a Jury and 118 without Jury.

Of the deceased persons in these cases 3 were under the age of 1 year, 15 were between 1 year and 16 years of age, and 163 were over the age of 16 years.

There were 85 post mortem examinations made, in 19 of which no inquest was held. The expenses of the inquests amounted to £442 14s. 4d.

The verdicts returned were:—

Suicides, 24 (males 18, females 6); accident or misadventure, 84 (males 51, females 33); natural causes, 65 (males 40, females 25); open verdicts, 7 (males 6, females 1).

The ages of the 24 suicides were as follows:—

Under 21 years of age ...	...	... None
Between 30 and 40 years of age	...	6
Between 40 and 50 years of age	...	1
Between 50 and 60 years of age	...	5
60 years of age and over...	...	12

The types of suicide were:—

Gassing	...	...	...	...	16
Drowning	...	...	...	...	1
Hanging	...	...	...	...	3
Cut throat	...	...	...	...	2
Jumping from window	...	...	...	...	1
Placing himself under train	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 24 <hr/>

There was one inquest adjourned under section 20 of the Coroners' Amendment Act, 1926. The criminal proceedings resulted in an acquittal of manslaughter.

There were no inquests on infants suffocated whilst in bed with their parents or others.

There was one inquest on a newly-born child.

In 1937 there were 365 deaths reported, 222 inquests were held and the expenses were £547 1s. 10d.

Prevention of Blindness.

The Blind Persons Acts are administered by the Blind Persons Acts Sub-Committee of the Education Committee, on which are co-opted representatives of the Public Assistance Committee and the voluntary societies in the area connected with the blind.

Table showing Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1938.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NOTIFICATIONS IN AGE GROUPS.				NOTIFICATIONS IN THE VARIOUS WARDS OF THE BOROUGH														
	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	St. Mary's	St. Peter's	Werneth	Westwood	St. Paul's	Coldhurst	Hartford	Hollinwood	Clarksheld	Mumps	St. James'	Waterhead
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	9	11	20	20	8	14	28	45	5	17	51
Cholera—Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	4	9	3	1	3	6	7	2	1	8
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group) ...	—	45	164	18	4	2	1	7	15	18	22	47	10	18	18	30	13	28	33
Erysipelas ...	—	1	5	3	15	23	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	70	165	13	11	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	5	26	—	—	3	—	1	8	2	1	5	2	2	—	4	3
Cerebro-Spinal ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis ...	2	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	1
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ...	11	—	—	41	46	32	2	9	9	6	1	2	1	1	16	2	—	2	2
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	12	12	9	9	14	5	13	8
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	21	19	15	17	5	1	3	3	4	5	9	7	6	7	9	4	12	9
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...	—	2	—	3	6	3	2	—	2	3	—	—	2	—	1	4	—	3	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	11	48	31	16	40	40	9	18	7	8	19	11	4	12	6	49	22	22	17
Acute Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	25	192	392	116	166	105	19	53	45	56	104	106	46	69	84	164	51	104	133

Table showing the Number of Cases of Certain Diseases notified, and the Deaths Registered from these Diseases during the several months of the year.

MONTHS.	SMALLPOX		SCARLET FEVER		DIPH- THERIA		TYPHOID FEVER		PUER- PERAL PYREXIA		CEREBRO- SPINAL M'INGITIS		ACUTE POLIOMYE- LITIS		ENCEPHA- LITIS L'TH'RICA		ERY- SIPELAS		ACUTE PRIMARY PNEU- MONIA		ACUTE INFLU- ENZAL PNEU- MONIA	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
January	27	1	31	2	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	20	7	2	1
February	23	1	19	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	15	4	2	2
March	31	...	25	2	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	13	5	1	...
April	17	...	14	1	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	31	3	2	...
May	18	...	16	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	26	2	1	...
June	20	...	18	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	20	...	3	1
July	18	...	12	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	9	3	1	...
August	11	...	19	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	6	...	5	...	...	...
September	11	...	13	...	...	...	5	...	2	2	...	...	1	...	5	...	9	...	...	...
October	20	...	28	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	9	3	2	1
November	28	...	16	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	13	2	...	...
December	35	...	23	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	25	3	2	...
Totals	259	2	234	12	...	...	31	4	7	4	...	...	1	5	51	...	195	32	16	5

Table showing the number of Cases of Certain Diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health during the years 1906 to 1938.

Year	Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Prxia.	Total Cases
1906	455	794	92	31	16	1,388
1907	—	522	69	22	8	631
1908	—	597	89	39	21	746
1909	—	522	62	35	16	635
1910	2	217	50	24	14	307
1911	1	447	87	20	19	574
1912	—	366	49	18	10	443
1913	8	922	91	12	13	1,046
1914	4	1,265	164	18	9	1,460
1915	22	530	86	11	10	659
1916	1	149	142	5	9	306
1917	—	129	51	5	11	196
1918	—	141	55	17	6	219
1919	—	436	118	5	14	573
1920	4	434	152	3	16	609
1921	4	725	106	10	12	857
1922	50	610	89	5	15	769
1923	—	244	59	3*	9‡	315
1924	—	142	80	3	7	232
1925	—	410	133	7	9	559
1926	10	326	140	1	16†	493
1927	19	188	205	3	22†	437
1928	31	279	288	1	31†	630
1929	18	668	221	6	32†	945
1930	32	712	168	—	34†	946
1931	—	272	88	8	28†	396
1932	—	209	50	2	20†	281
1933	—	407	135	—	30†	573
1934	—	342	195	2	31†	570
1935	—	588	218	—	24†	830
1936	8	187	310	—	51†	556
1937	—	214	275	2	57†	548
1938	—	259	234	—	31	524

* Including one case notified by Manchester Health Department.

‡ Including one case admitted into Oldham Union from Royton when already suffering from Puerperal Fever.

† Including Puerperal Fever.

Table showing the number of Deaths from certain Diseases in the Borough of Oldham during the years 1902 to 1938.

Year	Population	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Typhoid Fever	Diarrhoea	Total Deaths
1902	138,091	7	103	39	49	29	13	42	282
1903	138,786	23	43	30	58	111	12	47	324
1904	139,497	14	70	22	34	37	22	117	316
1905	140,225	5	65	45	11	57	12	98	293
1906	140,969	...	125	33	17	41	6	175	397
1907	141,730	...	35	17	17	66	4	78	217
1908	142,507	...	82	28	23	54	12	174	373
1909	143,301	...	43	16	14	15	12	54	159
1910	146,700	...	84	4	9	77	10	80	264
1911	147,751	...	64	5	11	13	3	260	356
1912	148,840	...	65	7	12	65	...	52	201
1913	149,936	...	38	19	19	36	3	104	219
1914	151,044	...	169	48	39	56	5	69	386
1915	141,781*	...	48	17	20	15	4	49	153
1916	136,126*	...	29	3	30	48	2	32	144
1917	133,721	...	73	3	6	4	4	25	115
1918	149,285	...	34	7	10	71	7	5	134
1919	.....	...	25	13	21	5	5	17	86
1920	143,154	...	6	6	15	17	1	12	57
1921	148,300	...	2	7	9	34	3	15	70
1922	148,300	...	70	8	11	9	3	10	111
1923	148,300	...	12	5	10	46	1	6	80
1924	147,300	...	24	2	3	13	1	5	48
1925	146,200	...	37	7	16	6	5	10	81
1926	143,000	...	23	4	19	47	2	4	99
1927	141,400	1	7	...	17	6	1	4	36
1928	143,200	...	9	1	35	4	...	21	70
1929	142,500	...	23	2	17	73	2	16	23
1930	142,500	...	21	8	17	2	...	...	148
1931	141,900	...	10	2	2	8	...	15	37
1932	138,900	...	18	...	1	15	1	10	45
1933	136,700	...	3	1	9	3	1	3	20
1934	135,200	...	19	2	25	18	2	...	66
1935	133,300	...	...	1	29	...	...	2	32
1936	131,000	...	13	2	23	16	...	10	64
1937	127,800	...	5	...	17	3	...	5	30
1938	126,100	...	8	2	12	1	...	13	36

* Estimated for Deaths.

Section VIII.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following report has been compiled by Dr. E. Ward, Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

Staff.

In September, Nurse Holmes, Tuberculosis Visitor, retired under the Superannuation Scheme. She had been with us for over 23 years and during that time she had rendered valuable service to the Department and the patients with whom she came in contact. She will be much missed by all and our good wishes go with her for her future welfare.

Facilities.

The facilities available in Oldham for the prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis are:—

- (a) The Dispensary, situated at 25, Barker Street;
- (b) Strinesdale Sanatorium, with 55 beds;
- (c) The Sanatorium Block at Westhulme Hospital, with 30 beds;
- (d) The Municipal Hospital, 15 beds for cases of surgical tuberculosis.

The Dispensary Unit.

There has been no alteration in the facilities available at the premises 25, Barker Street, the unsuitability of which for use as a Dispensary has been commented upon in previous reports.

Following the rejection by the Finance Committee of proposals for the erection of a new Health Centre attempts were made to secure more suitable premises for use as a Dispensary but these have been unsuccessful. It is therefore hoped that certain minor alterations and the long overdue internal decorations of the present premises will be carried out in the near future.

The Dispensary sessions are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings of each week. There is also an evening session once monthly, for patients who are at work during the day time, and a monthly session at the Isabella Greenhalgh Orthopædic Institute, Gainsborough Avenue, when cases of surgical tuberculosis are seen by the Orthopædic Surgeon.

Good co-operation exists between the Department and the local practitioners. New patients are only seen at the Dispensary on the recommendations of their own medical adviser.

During the year 242 new patients attended the Dispensary for the opinion of the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer; of these, 99 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis and 143 were non-tubercular.

Of the 213 new cases of tuberculosis accepted during the year only 99 (46%), were seen by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer before notification and it is regrettable to find that, as in previous years, this percentage remains so low. The corresponding figures for last year were 168 new cases, of which 69 (54%), were seen before notification.

The examination of house contacts has continued as in previous years. Unfortunately, young adults and elderly parents are particularly reluctant to attend the Dispensary. During the year 102 contacts were examined, as against 91 in 1937. Of these, 6 were ultimately diagnosed as definite cases of tuberculosis.

Dispensary Attendances.

	1936	1937	1938
Insured Persons and Ex-Service Men...	1,582	1,744	1,748
Non-Insured Persons 	466	435	462
Children 	846	690	762
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS ...	2,894	2,689	2,972

Invaluable work was done by the Tuberculosis Nurse, who paid no less than 611 visits to the homes of tubercular patients.

X-Ray Work.

All radiological work in connection with the Anti-Tuberculosis service is done at The Municipal Hospital. During the year the apparatus there has shown signs of senility and at times the skiagrams produced have not been of the standard required for diagnostic purposes. With the purchase of a new apparatus at the hospital which has now been approved these difficulties should be largely overcome. The arrangement to send Dispensary patients for radiological examinations to The Municipal Hospital is not very satisfactory. Much better service can be given when the work is carried out at the Dispensary or at a Sanatorium. Further comment on this subject will be found in the Strinesdale section of the report.

During the year under review 464 films were taken. This compares with 462 films taken in 1937. These figures include skiagrams taken at The Municipal Hospital of patients undergoing treatment at Westhulme Hospital and Strinesdale Sanatorium.

An efficient X-ray examination is of vital importance in the diagnosis of early Tuberculosis. All new notified cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, all chest cases sent for the opinion of the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, and all "contacts" with suspicious signs or symptoms of a heavy family history are given a radiological examination.

As in previous years the Honorary Physician in charge of the X-Ray Department of the Oldham Royal Infirmary has kindly lent us any films taken in his department of patients who later were referred to the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer for an opinion. This kindness saves us considerable time and expense. During the year 87 films were borrowed, and I should like to express my deep appreciation to him for his kind co-operation.

Pathological Examinations.

As in previous years all sputum examinations, both from the Dispensary and the Institutions, have been carried out at the Laboratory at the Health Office. During the year 1,236 specimens were examined. Of these, 435 were Positive and 801 were Negative for Tubercle Bacilli.

During the year increasing use has been made of the Laboratory facilities available at the Oldham Royal Infirmary. Numerous specimens of sputum, pleural fluid, etc., have been examined at the Laboratory by special methods of concentration and culture. In this connection I would like to express my thanks to the Honorary Pathologist for carrying out these examinations and for his kindness in forwarding copies of his reports on specimens from other sources which he has examined for tubercular disease.

Other Dispensary Activities.

Propaganda work is carried out by all members of the service wherever possible. Informative leaflets published by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis are distributed at the Dispensary.

Unfortunately no "After-Care Committee" exists in the Borough, but patients are assisted and advised whenever possible by the staff. Arrangements are made for the necessitous tubercular patients to receive, on the recommendation of the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, one pint of milk daily. During the year milk was granted to 111 patients. During the year a comprehensive report on "Tuberculosis Care Work" was presented to the Health Committee and various suggestions were made. At the end of the year under review the matter was still under consideration. It is hoped that this section of the service will be extended in the near future.

Ultra Violet Radiation treatment is given to suitable tubercular patients at the Isabella Greenhalgh Orthopædic Institute.

The work of the Dispensary is greatly facilitated by the valuable co-operation and service of the Tuberculosis Nurse and Clerk, but it should be noted that if an efficient and satisfactory Care Scheme is to be commenced in the Borough additional clerical assistance will be required.

INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS.

The Dispensary Register.

The total number of notified cases on the register of the Dispensary on the 31st December, 1938, was 580, as opposed to 571 at the end of the previous year. Of these, 200 were cases in which tubercle bacilli have been found in the sputum at some period of the illness.

Medical Practitioners are required by statute to notify to the local Medical Officer of Health all cases of Tuberculosis whether Pulmonary or Non-Pulmonary which come to their notice in the course of their practice. All cases notified are investigated by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer who places on the Dispensary Register those cases he considers to be definitely tubercular. The number of cases placed on the Register seldom corresponds exactly with the number of cases notified. This is due to a variety of reasons. Cases may be notified who are already on the Register; notification may not be confirmed by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, or the patient may die before an examination can be arranged. Cases notified after death and cases which escape notification and are certified in the Registrar's returns as dying of tuberculosis are not placed on the Dispensary Register.

During the year 227 formal notifications were received by the Medical Officer of Health, 186 of these cases being placed on the Dispensary Register.

Live Register of Tubercular Patients.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL		
	Male	F'male	Total	Male	F'male	Total	Male	F'male	Total
No. on Register on 31/12/37 ...	224	146	370	109	92	201	333	238	571
Cases previously removed, returning during 1938 ...	3	3	6	3	—	3	6	3	9
New cases placed on Register during 1938 ...	75	45	120	38	40	78	113	85	198
Cases removed during 1938 ...	96	52	148	27	23	50	123	75	198
No. on Register on 31/12/38 ...	206	142	348	123	109	232	329	251	580

For various reasons, such as those outlined above, it is not possible to place all cases coming to the notice of the Tuberculosis Officer on the Dispensary Register.

During 1938, 15 such cases, 5 pulmonary and 10 non-pulmonary, were noted.

Removals from the Dispensary Register.

A study of the removals from the register is very instructive. During the year 198 patients were removed for the following reasons:—

1. Recovery	...	...	...	52	or 26.3 per cent. of total	removals
2. Removal out of district	...	21				
3. Not desiring further attention	...	16				
4. Lost sight of	...	...	...	14		
5. Diagnosis not being confirmed	...	7				
6. Death	...	...	...	88	or 44.4 per cent. of total	removals
				29.3 per cent. of total removals		

The number of "recovered" cases removed during the year shows a considerable decrease when compared with the previous year but this is due largely to the fact that a large number of cases who had been considered "arrested" for a good number of years but had been allowed to remain on the Register were removed during the two or three years prior to the one at present under review.

Of the 52 recovered cases removed during the year, 26 were pulmonary—22 or 84.6 per cent. being Tb. Minus, 2 or 7.7 per cent. Tb. Plus 1, and 2 or 7.7 per cent. Tb. Plus 2. None belonged to the group Tb. Plus 3. These figures again stress the well known fact that the success of treatment in Tuberculosis depends on early detection of the disease.

The term "recovered," from the point of view of the Dispensary Register, does not mean that the patient is cured in the ordinary sense of the word. It merely means that the patient is no longer infectious and that the tubercular process is healed, although the patient may be left with severe deformity. For instance, a patient's knee or hip joint may be incapable of any movement, or a pulmonary patient may be incapable of work owing to shortness of breath, yet both may be considered "recovered."

Further details of the "recovered" cases removed during 1938 are given below:—

	With no disability	With slight disability or deformity	With marked disability or deformity
Non-Pulmonary			
Peripheral Glands ...	9	6	—
Bones and Joints ...	1	3	3
Abdominal ...	2	—	—
Other Organs ...	2	—	—
Pulmonary			
Minus ...	17	5	—
Plus I ...	2	—	—
Plus II ...	2	—	—

Of the 88 deaths, 82 were pulmonary cases, and their distribution in the various groups was as follows:—

Tb. Minus	16 cases	19.5 per cent.	of total pulmonary deaths		
Tb. Plus I	1	1.2	"	"	"
Tb. Plus II	38	46.3	"	"	"
Tb. Plus III.	27	33.0	"	"	"

The non-pulmonary deaths are analysed in another section.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

New Cases.

During 1938, 121 new cases were accepted, 116 being placed on the register. These figures show an increase over those of last year of 16 new cases accepted and 18 placed on the Dispensary Register. It should, however, be noted that the whole of the increase was in the group for early cases, *i.e.*, T.B. Minus, and that there was a decrease of 10 in the group for advanced cases, *i.e.*, T.B. Plus III.

The 116 placed on the register were found to in the under-mentioned stages of the disease on the first examination:—

T.B. Minus (sputum negative or absent)	...	...	51
T.B. Plus I (early cases, sputum positive)	...	...	—
T.B. Plus II (intermediate cases, sputum positive)			40
T.B. Plus III (advanced cases, sputum positive)	...		25

Although the above figures show a greater proportion of early cases than in previous years, the disease was found to be well advanced and the prospects of a permanent cure remote in over half of the new patients seen. All that one can hope for in these cases is a temporary improvement. Of these 116 new cases, 30 died before the end of the year under review.

Deaths.

During the year 80 patients, as compared with 81 patients in the previous year, died from pulmonary tuberculosis. Although there has been little change in the total number of deaths there has been a remarkable alteration in the distribution between the sexes. In 1937 the 81 deaths were comprised of 41 males and 40 females. This year the distribution is 60 males and 20 females.

The incidence of deaths in the various age groups also shows a marked change. In previous years a large percentage of deaths amongst males occurred in the age groups 45 and over, whilst amongst females the greater proportion of the deaths were those of the young adults and adolescents as covered by the age groups 15-35. In 1938 the position has been reversed. The male deaths in the younger age groups have increased, whilst among females the incidence in the younger age groups has decreased.

Of the 80 deaths occurring during the year, 12, or 15%, had been notified to the Tuberculosis Officer as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis more than five years prior to the date of death. A further 8, or 10%, had been notified three to five years before death, whilst 17, or 21.2%, died one to three years after notification.

The remaining 43 deaths (53.8% of the total number) occurred within one year of coming to notice. These included 4 which escaped statutory notification, being certified in the Registrar's returns as dying of pulmonary tuberculosis.

The following table shows the length of time between notification and death of the remaining 39:—

Under 1 week	...	...	...	...	3
1 to 4 weeks	.....	...	...	...	8
1 to 2 months	...	...	...	...	7
2 to 3 months	...	...	...	...	2
3 to 6 months	...	...	...	...	9
6 to 9 months	...	...	...	...	7
9 to 12 months	...	...	...	...	3

Thus, of the 80 patients dying of pulmonary tuberculosis during the year, 68, or 85%, died within five years of coming to notice.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

New Cases.

The number of new cases accepted during the year was 81, 71 of which were placed on the Dispensary Register, compared with 58 and 54 in 1937.

The following table shows the incidence of this form of the disease since 1920:—

Average number of new cases per year for the period 1920-24	83
Average number of new cases per year for the period 1925-29	75
Average number of new cases per year for the period 1930-34	67
Number of new cases for the year 1935	50
Number of new cases for the year 1936	40
Number of new cases for the year 1937	58
Number of new cases for the year 1938	81

The location of the disease in the new cases in 1938, compared with those of the previous year, is shown below:—

	1937	1938
Bones and Joints... ..	12	17
Abdomen	5	17
Other Organs	7	14
Peripheral Glands	31	31
Skin	3	1
Generalised	—	1

It has been mentioned in previous reports that the number of non-pulmonary cases notified to the Medical Officer of Health cannot be regarded as a true index of the incidence of this form of disease.

A large proportion of these non-pulmonary cases throughout the country are bovine in origin. That is, they are caused by the ingestion of meat or milk from cows infected with tuberculosis. Reference to the table in the Section on Inspection and Supervision of Foods shows that a considerable percentage of milk on sale in the Borough contains tubercle bacilli and is therefore liable to cause tuberculosis in persons who drink it. Of 65 samples of milk taken during the year (43 from farms in and 22 from farms out of the Borough) examined for tuberculosis, 5 (4 from Oldham farms and 1 from other farms) were found to contain tubercle bacilli.

Deaths.

During the year there were 15 deaths from this form of the disease, as against 18 in 1937.

In addition, 1 case died from other causes.

Of this year's deaths, 11 occurred in our own hospitals, 3 in the local Infirmary, and 1 at home, the classification being:—

Abdomen	6
Meninges	5
Bones and Joints—	
Spine	2
Sinuses	1
Peripheral Glands	1

The following is a summary of the new cases and deaths during the year.

New Cases					Deaths			
Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 to 1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1 to 5	—	—	10	10	—	—	2	1
5 to 10	4	—	8	9	2	—	—	2
10 to 15	1	2	1	5	—	—	1	—
15 to 20	10	9	7	6	3	1	3	1
20 to 25	10	9	5	—	5	5	—	—
25 to 35	10	12	4	8	14	7	1	—
35 to 45	15	7	5	—	10	2	—	—
45 to 55	16	3	2	5	8	3	1	1
55 to 65	12	2	—	1	16	1	—	1
65 and upwards	2	2	—	1	2	1	—	—
TOTALS	80	46	43	45	60	20	9	6
1938	126		88		80		15	
1937	108		60		81		18	
1936	94		40		58		16	

The following list gives a summary of the principal occupations of new cases and deaths :—

New Cases			Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Cotton Operatives ...	33	13	20	1
Iron Workers ...	6	2	4	1
Textile Machinery Workers	8	3	8	—
Labourers ...	11	2	7	—
Household Duties ...	16	11	14	1
Other Occupations ...	21	12	16	4
No Occupation ...	8	—	1	1
School Children ...	7	25	2	3
Children under School Age	—	17	—	4
Shop Assistants ...	5	—	3	—
Clerks ...	5	1	3	—
Stone Masons ...	3	—	2	—
Domestic Service ...	3	2	—	—
TOTALS ...	126	88	80	15

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

The following tabulation shows the decrease in the number of deaths from tuberculosis since the adoption of a scheme in the year 1914. The average for the previous five years was 250 deaths per annum.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Rate per 1,000 Population		
1915	...	203	...	64	...	267	...	1.8
1916	...	203	...	53	...	256	...	1.8
1917	...	178	...	52	...	230	...	1.7
1918	...	160	...	59	...	219	...	1.5
1919	...	130	...	42	...	172	...	1.4
Average	...	175	...	54	...	229	...	1.6
1920	...	156	...	40	...	196	...	1.3
1921	...	122	...	34	...	156	...	1.0
1922	...	142	...	53	...	195	...	1.3
1923	...	127	...	53	...	180	...	1.2
1924	...	126	...	51	...	177	...	1.2
Average	...	135	...	46	...	181	...	1.2
1925	...	121	...	29	...	150	...	1.0
1926	...	112	...	47	...	159	...	1.1
1927	...	104	...	22	...	126	...	0.8
1928	...	115	...	24	...	139	...	0.9
1929	...	144	...	24	...	168	...	1.1
Average	...	119	...	29	...	148	...	1.0
1930	...	103	...	36	...	139	...	0.9
1931	...	108	...	25	...	133	...	0.9
1932	...	104	...	19	...	123	...	0.8
1933	...	87	...	22	...	109	...	0.79
1934	...	97	...	11	...	108	...	0.80
Average	...	100	...	22	...	122	...	0.84
1935	...	93	...	15	...	108	...	0.81
1936	...	58	...	16	...	74	...	0.56
1937	...	81	...	18	...	99	...	0.77
1938	...	80	...	15	...	95	...	0.75

STRINESDALE SANATORIUM.

The need for alterations and additions at the Sanatorium has been stressed in previous reports and it is disappointing to report that no real progress has been made to meet these urgent needs. There have been no major alterations during the year but several minor improvements have been effected.

As a result of a Ministry of Health survey early in 1937 a delegation was, in May 1938, invited to attend at the Ministry in order to discuss various suggestions for improvements at Strinesdale, including the provision of a treatment room and an X-Ray apparatus. This discussion was followed by a recommendation of the Health Committee to the Finance Committee that a sum of £10,000 be included in the proposals for Capital Expenditure during the next five years. The recommendation was rejected by the Finance Committee in its entirety and the position at Strinesdale as regards major improvements remains unchanged. This decision is much to be regretted for, as is well known to members of the Health Committee, serious defects and deficiencies exist at the Sanatorium. These include in particular, the unsatisfactory balconies, the inadequate accommodation for patients and staff and the absence of an X-Ray Plant and Treatment Block. Until these are provided proper treatment cannot be afforded to patients and the Sanatorium can only be regarded as a third rate Institution.

During the year improvements have been carried out in the grounds and a kitchen garden established. Patients who are considered fit by the Medical Officer, do light work in the grounds for some weeks before discharge. This helps to prepare them for a return to their ordinary employment.

A revolving chalet, to accommodate one patient, was erected in the autumn. The chalet, which has been occupied throughout the winter months, has proved quite satisfactory both from the views of patients and staff. It is hoped that further chalets will be provided in due course.

Attempts have been made to establish handicrafts amongst patients. Materials are bought from the Cheshire Joint Sanatorium and these are fashioned by patients into attractive jewellery, stools, etc. Much more could be done in this direction but the great handicap is the lack of a suitable Handicraft room or hut and the help of a capable instructor.

As an experiment, a small canteen where patients can purchase cigarettes, sweets, toilet requisites, etc., was commenced early in the year. The increasing weekly turnover shows that this service is much appreciated.

The scheme for the provision of dental treatment mentioned in the previous report is still in abeyance. This is much to be regretted as the lack of means to give adequate dental treatment prevents some patients from obtaining the full benefit of sanatorium treatment.

It is pleasing to note that arrangements have been made for a Consultant Thoracic Surgeon to visit the Sanatorium when required. Mr. A. Graham Bryce, F.R.C.S., paid his first visit to Strinesdale in September, and during the period under review visited the Institution on three occasions. He has given valuable advice regarding treatment and has arranged for patients to have tomograms (a special form of X-Ray photograph) taken at the Manchester Royal Infirmary. One patient was admitted to the Manchester Royal Infirmary under his care for operation and had a phrenic evulsion performed.

Thanks are due to the Ministers and Laymen of all denominations who have conducted religious services at the Sanatorium during the year.

Concerts and Whist Drives have been held at intervals during the winter months and thanks are due to the various artistes and others who have made these possible.

During the year there were 112 admissions to Strinesdale. Of these 88 were new cases and 24 old cases who had previously been in sanatoria. Treatment follows the usual sanatorium routine, and includes prolonged bed rest under open-air conditions, followed by limited and graduated exercise. At all times there is a sufficiency of nourishing food.

Sputum examinations are carried out at frequent regular intervals. It is disappointing to report that of 30 new cases discharged during the year whose sputum had been "positive" on admission, only 7 became "negative." Similarly, of 5 re-admissions discharged, 2 had become "negative."

Special treatment, including artificial pneumothorax and sanocrysin, is offered to suitable patients, and the following details are of such treatment given during the year:—

Artificial Pneumothorax.

At the commencement of the year 3 patients were undergoing this form of treatment as in-patients, and 2 patients attended as out-patients. Artificial pneumothorax induction was attempted in 6 patients during the year and was successful in 4 patients. Treatment was discontinued in one case owing to the presence of adhesions with incomplete collapse of the lung, and in a second case owing to the spread of infection into the other lung.

After discharge 2 patients have continued to attend the Sanatorium as out-patients in order to continue their treatment. Of the 9 patients receiving this treatment during the year effusions developed in only one case, and this necessitated 4 aspirations.

No bi-lateral artificial pneumothorax was attempted.

Sanocrysin.

Sanocrysin has been given to 26 patients during the year, including 1 patient who commenced a course in the previous year. This form of treatment was given in conjunction with collapse therapy to 3 patients. Treatment had to be discontinued before a complete course had been given in 4 instances, for the following reasons :—

Rash	...	...	...	...	...	1
Albumen	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	1

A full course of treatment is spread over four or five months, and the amount of Sanocrysin given varies from 4.5 to 5.6 grms.

Of 12 patients who completed a full course of treatment, 9 improved in general condition and increased in weight, whilst 6 of the 12 became "negative." Unfortunately, some months after completion of treatment 2 became "positive" again.

Sanocrysin appears to have a general tonic effect upon patients, reduces the amount of sputum, and tends to reduce the number of tubercle bacilli in the sputum. A number of patients, however, are prone to relapse and become "positive" when the course is completed. Repeat courses have been given to 3 patients.

Air replacement has been performed on six occasions on 3 patients suffering from pleural effusions.

Dr. Cammock, the Consultant Aural Surgeon, has kindly seen a number of patients suspected of having tubercular disease of the larynx and advised as to treatment.

Artificial Pneumothorax.

Inductions attempted	...	...	...	6
Inductions successful	...	...	...	4
Refills	...	...	...	188

Sanocrysin.

Patients treated	...	...	...	26
Injections given	...	...	...	459

Other Treatment.

Pleural aspirations	...	...	...	3
Air replacements	...	...	...	6

Increasing use has been made of the Blood Sedimentation Test, the test being carried out on all patients at monthly intervals. Various specimens have been sent to the laboratory of the Oldham Royal Infirmary for examination.

The following figures give some further indication of the activities of the institution during the year, compared with 1937:—

Admissions.

	1937	1938
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	73	86
B. Observation Cases	24	26

Deaths.

A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	6	14
B. Observation and Non-Tubercular Cases ...	—	1

Discharges.

Transfers to Westhulme	3	3
Transfers to The Municipal Hospital	3	—
Other Discharges	96	76

Condition of Patients on Discharge.

Observation Cases proved to be Non-Tubercular ...	21	5
Observation Cases proved to be Tubercular ...	5	16
Disease Quiescent	—	—
Improved	62	47
No Material Improvement	14	11

WESTHULME HOSPITAL.

The Sanatorium Block at this Hospital which provides accommodation for 30 patients, has continued to play a very useful part in the Tuberculosis Service, but the general structure of the block is becoming dilapidated and the cost of repairs is excessive. In the very near future a new block for tubercular patients will have to be provided or alternative accommodation found.

As far as possible, all patients who are bedfast when first seen by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer are admitted to Westhulme for a period of bed rest, and are transferred to Strinesdale when they have improved sufficiently to be no longer bedfast.

Some of the special treatment given to out-patients has been carried out at Westhulme. The following figures give some indication of the activities of the Sanatorium Block during the year, as compared with 1937 :—

Admissions.	1937	1938
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	77	70
B. Observation Cases	11	9

Deaths.		
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	27	33
B. Observation and Non-Tubercular Cases ...	1	—

Discharges.		
Transferred to Strinesdale	19	5
Transferred to The Municipal Hospital	6	2
Other Discharges	38	35

Condition of Patients on Discharge.		
Observation Cases proved to be Non-Tubercular...	7	5
Observation Cases proved to be Tubercular ...	3	2
Disease Quiescent	1	—
Improved	35	22
No Material Improvement	17	13

THE MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

This is a general hospital, but beds are reserved for the treatment of non-pulmonary cases of tuberculosis. The present arrangements at the hospital for the nursing of such patients are not very satisfactory, as there is practically no opportunity for open-air treatment which is so essential. If the treatment of non-pulmonary cases is to be continued at The Municipal Hospital open air balconies should be provided for both male and female patients.

Most of the patients recommended for admission by the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer are suffering from bone or joint disease and are under the care of Mr. Poston, the Orthopaedic Surgeon, who attends regularly for operations and consultations. The patients are usually first seen by him at the Orthopaedic Clinic or at the Surgical Session of the Dispensary, and continue under his care when discharged from hospital.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer visits the hospital fortnightly to see these surgical cases and to consult with the Resident Staff regarding any suspected cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in the Medical Wards. All patients in whom the diagnosis is confirmed are transferred almost immediately to our Sanatoria.

Artificial Sunlight treatment is given at the hospital to suitable cases.

The following figures give some indication of the activities of the hospital with regard to tuberculosis during the year, as compared with 1937:—

Admissions.	1937	1938
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	48	62
B. Observation Cases	24	39

Deaths.		
A. Definite Cases of Tuberculosis	16	21
B. Observation and Non-Tubercular Cases ...	2	1

Discharges.		
Transfers to Westhulme—Pulmonary	11	14
Non-Pulmonary	4	1
Transfers to Strinesdale—Pulmonary	4	6
Non-Pulmonary	1	2
Other Discharges	29	60

Condition of Patients on Discharge.

Observation Cases proved to be Non-Tubercular...	11	10
Observation Cases proved to be Tubercular ...	11	15
Disease Quiescent	—	—
Improved	15	45
No Material Improvement	12	13

The following tables, in the forms prescribed by the Ministry of Health, give further details of the work carried out during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1920.

Part I.—Summary of Notifications during the period from the 1st January, 1938, to the 31st December, 1938, in the area of the County Borough of Oldham.

FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS.														
Age Periods		Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis.										Total Notifications		
		Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis.												
		0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65		65 and upwards	Total (All Ages)
Pulmonary Males	3	2	11	11	10	16	14	13	1	81	85	
" Females	1	10	9	14	6	3	2	1	46	47	
Non-Pulmonary Males	10	8	1	6	5	3	5	1	...	39	44	
" Females	11	6	4	...	9	...	4	...	1	39	43	

Part II.—Supplemental Return.

New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by Formal Notification.

Age Periods	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards	Total
Pulmonary, Males	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	1	6
Females	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	4
Non-Pulmonary Males	1	1	1	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	7
Females	...	1	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	8

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.		No. OF CASES.				
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
Death Returns—from local Registrars	2	...	4
—transferable deaths from Registrar General
Posthumous Notifications	3	...	4
“Transfers” from other areas (other than transferable deaths)...	5	...	7
Other Sources, if any (specify)	—	...	—

Part III.—Notification Register.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			Total Cases
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
	248	154	402	146	124	270	
Number of Cases of Tuberculosis remaining at the 31st December, 1938, on the Registers of Notification							672
Number of cases removed from the Register(s) during the year by reason <i>inter alia</i> of :—							
1. Withdrawal of notification	6	3	9	3	3	6	15
2. Recovery from the Disease	12	14	26	11	15	26	52
3. Death (all causes)	66	21	87	9	5	14	101
4. Otherwise	13	14	27	4	4	8	35

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE I. (A) Return showing the work of the Dispensary during the year 1938.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL				GRAND TOTAL				
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.						
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.					
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts) :—																	
(a) Definitely tuberculous	67	38	2	1	17	18	14	15	84	56	16	16	172				
* (b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	6	10	4	28				
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63	80	35	37	215				
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year :—																	
(a) Definitely tuberculous	—	2	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	3	1	6				
* (b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2				
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	16	32	32	94				
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as :—																	
(a) Recovered	12	14	—	—	5	9	6	6	17	23	6	6	52				
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	93	105	69	72	339				
D.—NUMBER OF CASES on Dispensary Register on 31st December :—																	
(a) Definitely tuberculous	198	133	8	9	72	77	51	32	270	210	59	41	580				
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	6	10	5	30				

Table I.—continued.

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on 1st January	602	8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations)†	63
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years	21	9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	611
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the tuberculosis scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	51	10. Number of :— (a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined (b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	371 464
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes)	88	11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A(a) and A(b) above	A(a)1
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	2972	12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on 31st December	200
6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on 31st December	59		
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners :— (a) Personal† (b) Other	36 670		

TABLE II.

RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) NUMBER OF BEDS AVAILABLE FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE 31ST DECEMBER IN INSTITUTIONS BELONGING TO THE COUNCIL.

NAME OF INSTITUTION	For Pulmonary Cases		For Non-Pulmonary Cases		Total
	Adults	Children under 15	Adults	Children under 15	
Strinesdale Sanatorium	49	6	...	...	55
Westhulme Hospital	15	3	9	3	30
The Municipal Hospital ... ..	...	...	10	5	15

(b) RETURN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT AND OBSERVATION DURING THE YEAR IN INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

			In Institu- tions on 1st Jan.	Admitted during the year.	Discharg'd during the year.	Died in the Insti- tutions.	In Institu- tions on 31st Dec.
Number of doubtfully tuberculous cases admitted for Ob- servation	Adult	M.	6	33	32	4	3
		F.	...	17	10	4	3
	Children	.....	3	24	15	4	8
	Total	.....	9	74	57	12	14
Number of patients suffering from pul- monary tuberculosis.	Adult	M.	31	110	70	39	32
		F.	10	60	34	13	23
	Children	.....	3	7	5	1	4
	Total		44	177	109	53	59
Number of patients suffering from non-pulmonary tu- berculosis	Adult	M.	2	21	17	2	4
		F.	3	11	13	...	1
	Children	.....	6	21	20	4	3
	Total	.....	11	53	50	6	8
Grand Totals ... ..	...	...	64	304	216	71	81

(c) RETURN SHOWING THE RESULTS OF OBSERVATION OF DOUBTFULLY TUBERCULOUS CASES DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR FROM INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Diagnosis on Discharge from Observation	For Pulmonary Tuberculosis						For Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis						Totals		
	Stay under 4 weeks			Stay over 4 weeks			Stay under 4 weeks			Stay over 4 weeks					
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.
Tuberculous ...	11	4	1	5	3	3	3	1	4	1	1	3	20	9	11
Non-tuberculous ...	2	...	...	10	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	5	13	2	6
Doubtful ...	2	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	3	3	2
Totals ...	15	4	1	16	8	4	4	1	5	1	1	9	36	14	19

TABLE III.

Return showing the immediate results of treatment of definitely Tuberculous Patients discharged during the Year from Institutions approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

Classification on admission to the Institution.	Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institutions.											
		Under 3 months, but exceeding 28 days		3-6 months		6-12 months		More than 12 months		Totals		Grand Totals No.	%
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Class T.B. minus.	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Improved ...	10	4	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	9	24	88.9
	No Material Improvement ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	3.7
	Died in Institution ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7.4
Class T.B. plus Group I.	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Improved ...	2	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	8	100.0
	No Material Improvement ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Died in Institution ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Class T.B. plus Group II.	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Improved ...	7	3	...	7	...	1	...	...	...	15	39	62.9
	No Material Improvement ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	8.1
	Died in Institution ...	3	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	13	18	29.0
Class T.B. plus Group III.	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Improved ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	29.2
	No Material Improvement ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	12.5
	Died in Institution ...	6	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	14	58.3
	Totals (Pulmonary)	34	10	3	24	15	1	9	3	5	2	78	...
												121	...

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE IV.—PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS—continued.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates.	1933				1934				1935				1936				1937				1938					
	Class T.B. minus	Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total (Class T.B. plus).	Class T.B. minus	Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total (Class T.B. plus).	Class T.B. minus	Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total (Class T.B. plus).	Class T.B. minus	Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total (Class T.B. plus).	Class T.B. minus	Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total (Class T.B. plus).	
Disease arrested : Adults M. Children F.	2	1	3	...	4	3	...	1	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1	1	3	...	4	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Disease not arrested : Adults M. Children F.	1	...	7	...	7	...	2	7	...	9	6	...	4	...	14	4	...	13	1	14	4	...	2	11	3	16
	...	1	2	...	3	1	1	1	...	4	3	...	4	...	11	6	...	10	4	15	4	...	14	10	4	15
Condition not ascertained during the year Total on Dispensary Register at 31st Dec.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	7	3	18	...	21	9	3	9	...	12	14	2	10	...	12	11	1	23	1	25	12	5	23	8	36	38
Discharged as recovered Adults M. Children F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Lost sight of, or otherwise removed from Dispensary Register	9	...	4	1	5	5	5	9	...	14	8	...	4	...	4	4	...	4	...	1	3	...	2	...	2	...
	7	...	27	25	52	13	2	14	15	31	7	...	13	11	24	5	...	14	13	27	3	...	3	10	13	
DEAD Adults M. Children F.	4	...	15	11	26	5	1	19	7	27	1	...	18	4	22	2	...	8	6	14	3	...	7	8	15	
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total written off Dispensary Register	20	...	46	37	83	23	8	43	22	73	16	...	36	15	51	11	...	26	19	45	7	...	19	27	46	
	27	3	64	37	104	32	11	52	22	85	30	2	46	15	63	22	1	49	20	70	19	5	42	35	82	
Grand Totals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TABLE IV.—(b) NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Supplementary Annual Return showing in summary form (a) the condition at the end of 1938 of all patients remaining on the Dispensary Register; and (b) the reasons for the removal of all cases written off the Register.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the return relates.	Previous to 1928					1928					1929					1930					1931					1932				
	Bones & Joints	Abdo-minal	Other	Pert-pleural Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo-minal	Other	Pert-pleural Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo-minal	Other	Pert-pleural Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo-minal	Other	Pert-pleural Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo-minal	Other	Pert-pleural Glands	Total					
Disease arrested: Adults Children	...	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	3
Disease not arrested: Adults Children	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	1	1	
Condition not ascer- tained during the year	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...
Total on Dispensary Register at 31st Dec.	4	2	7	2	15	1	2	3	1	7	...	...	4	...	9	5	...	2	4	13	5	1	1	1	1	8		
Transferred to Pulmonary	2	2	3	4	11	1	1	...	1	3	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	2	1	2	...	...	1	4
Discharged, as re- covered: Adults Children	20	6	6	17	49	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	4	6	2	...	1	3	5	1	...	1	2	2	4
Lost sight of, or other- wise removed from Dispensary Register	10	4	3	20	37	3	...	...	3	5	1	1	1	2	5	1	2	2	4	9	...	1	...	...	3	3
Dead	37	37	5	76	155	4	3	1	6	14	3	8	1	3	17	4	2	...	5	11	...	4	...	...	12	12		
Total written off Dispensary Register	169	61	53	149	432	5	7	3	3	18	6	1	1	3	11	7	4	3	4	18	6	1	3	5	15	9				
Adults	34	8	3	8	53	...	...	1	...	1	1	2	...	1	4	1	2	...	1	2	5	...	...	...	7	7
Children	11	5	4	5	25	2	...	...	1	3	2	3	...	...	6	2	1	...	...	7	...	3	...	...	3	3
Grand Totals of (a) and (b) excluding those transferred to Pulmonary	293	147	79	279	798	11	12	6	14	43	12	4	2	15	33	16	23	5	16	60	15	10	7	12	42	42				
...	297	149	86	281	813	12	14	9	15	50	12	4	4	16	36	21	23	9	16	69	22	10	8	13	50	50				

TABLE IV.—NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS—continued.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the return relates.	1933					1934					1935					1936					1937					1938				
	Bones & Joints	Abdo- minal	Other Organs	Peri- pheral Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo- minal	Other Organs	Peri- pheral Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo- minal	Other Organs	Peri- pheral Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo- minal	Other Organs	Peri- pheral Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo- minal	Other Organs	Peri- pheral Glands	Total	Bones & Joints	Abdo- minal	Other Organs	Peri- pheral Glands	Total
Disease arrested: M. Adults	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
F. Children	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Disease not arrested: M. Adults	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
F. Children	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Condition not ascer- tained during the year	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Total on Dispensary Register at 31st Dec.	4	2	2	4	12	4	2	2	7	15	4	4	5	9	22	6	8	2	9	25	4	2	5	25	36	14	13	9	31	67
(a) Remaining on Dispensary Register at 31st Dec.	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Transferred to Pulmonary	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Discharged as re- covered Adults	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
F. Children	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Lost sight of, or other- wise removed from Dispensary Register	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Removal therefrom.	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Dead	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Adults	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Children	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4
Total written off Dispensary Register	7	9	4	13	33	6	8	5	14	33	5	7	4	6	22	3	7	1	1	12	6	3	2	8	19	1	3	...	...	4
GRAND TOTALS of (a) and (b) excluding those transferred to Pulmonary	11	11	6	17	45	10	10	7	21	48	9	11	9	15	44	9	15	3	10	37	10	5	7	33	55	15	16	9	31	71

Section IX.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The scheme for the treatment of patients suffering from venereal diseases remains as in previous years.

The clinic is held at the Oldham Royal Infirmary on Monday night for females and on Tuesday and Wednesday nights for males, and beds are available for in-patients. It also serves the adjoining areas of the Lancashire and the West Riding County Councils.

The V.D. Officer is Dr. J. G. Stewart, and his assistants are Dr. A. S. McGowan and Dr. C. S. Strachan.

At the beginning of the year 396 cases were under treatment, 13 (removed from the register in previous years as having ceased to attend) returned for treatment during the year, and 323 cases attended for the first time; thus, there were 732 cases under treatment during the year.

Of the new cases, 235 or 76.3 per cent. were diagnosed as suffering from venereal disease (78 syphilis, 157 gonorrhœa). Seventy-three were found not to have venereal disease.

Eight of the syphilis cases were diagnosed congenital syphilis.

Attendances.

The total number of attendances was 10,527 (8,228 for examination by the Medical Officer and 2,299 for irrigation, dressing, etc.)

Nineteen patients were admitted as in-patients during the year, 11 suffering from syphilis, 7 from gonorrhœa, and 1 from non-venereal conditions.

Result of Treatment.

Two hundred and thirty-two cases (5 syphilis, 140 gonorrhœa, 87 non-venereal) were discharged after completion of treatment and final tests of cure, or after diagnosis as non-venereal. One hundred cases (51 syphilis, 49 gonorrhœa) ceased to attend before completion of treatment.

Twenty-seven cases (20 syphilis, 7 gonorrhœa) ceased to attend after completion of treatment but before final tests of cure.

Fourteen cases (5 syphilis, 8 gonorrhœa, 1 non-venereal) were transferred to other centres, institutions, or to the care of private practitioners.

Three hundred and fifty-nine cases (219 syphilis, 126 gonorrhœa, 14 non-venereal) were still under treatment or observation at the end of the year.

Supplies of Arsenobenzene Compounds.

These are available for private medical practitioners whose names are in the accepted register. Ten doctors on the list availed themselves of this free supply, and 302 doses of various strengths of these compounds were supplied to them.

Pathological Examinations.

Nine microscopic examinations were made for syphilis and 747 for gonorrhœa at the Centre.

One thousand two hundred and seventy-eight specimens were examined at the University of Manchester Public Health Laboratory, of which 1,141 were Wassermann reactions, and 137 tests for gonorrhœa (134 fixation tests and 3 microscopic tests). One hundred and seventy-six of these were received from general practitioners, 138 from the Municipal Hospital, 13 from other sources, and 951 from the Centre.

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